LOST BOY™

JAY MARTIN

FRANK CVETKOVIC

LOST BOY™

LOST BOY™
SCRIPT, ART & COVER
JAY MARTIN
LETTERS
FRANK CVETKOVIC
FEATURING AN INTRODUCTION FROM
SHAWN MENDES
DARK HORSE BOOKS

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INTRODUCTION

I've known Jay Martin now for years, having met him for the first time in a cold parking garage in Toronto when he directed one of my first music videos, for the song "Stitches." The thing I remember most about that video is how Jay created these incredible hand-drawn animations of the entire video, front to back, as part of the preproduction process. He himself sketched every frame as if it were the storyboard for a movie.

Since then, we've collaborated on many more videos, and Jay always brought with him his storyboards and sketches and animatics, where he'd turn them into incredible animated versions of the video. We'd walk into every video, before shooting it, knowing the feeling we were after, thanks to his incredible process.

I told Jay many times that he should make a graphic novel. That an audience needed to see the amazing work he was doing at the time, just behind the scenes. And finally, he did, and sent me *Lost Boy* during the pandemic. I immediately read it and was enamored by the story.

Lost Boy is a universal story, one that we can all relate to. Even though it's about one specific kid lost in the wilderness, we can all relate to the feeling the story provokes as we struggle to find a path through life. It's a classic coming-of-age tale with incredible emotion and energy. All thanks to Jay's masterful way of telling stories through images.

So with that, I truly hope you enjoy *Lost Boy*.

—Shawn Mendes

CHAPTER 1

LOST BOY

THIS.

LOST BOY

BY JAY MARTIN

WITH LETTERING BY
FRANK CVETKOVIC

JACK?!
HELLO?
ARE YOU PLANNING TO GIVE ME THE SILENT TREATMENT THE *ENTIRE* WAY BACK TO LA?
I MEAN... IT'S ANOTHER NINE HOURS. NOT SURE WHAT I DID TO DESERVE THIS?

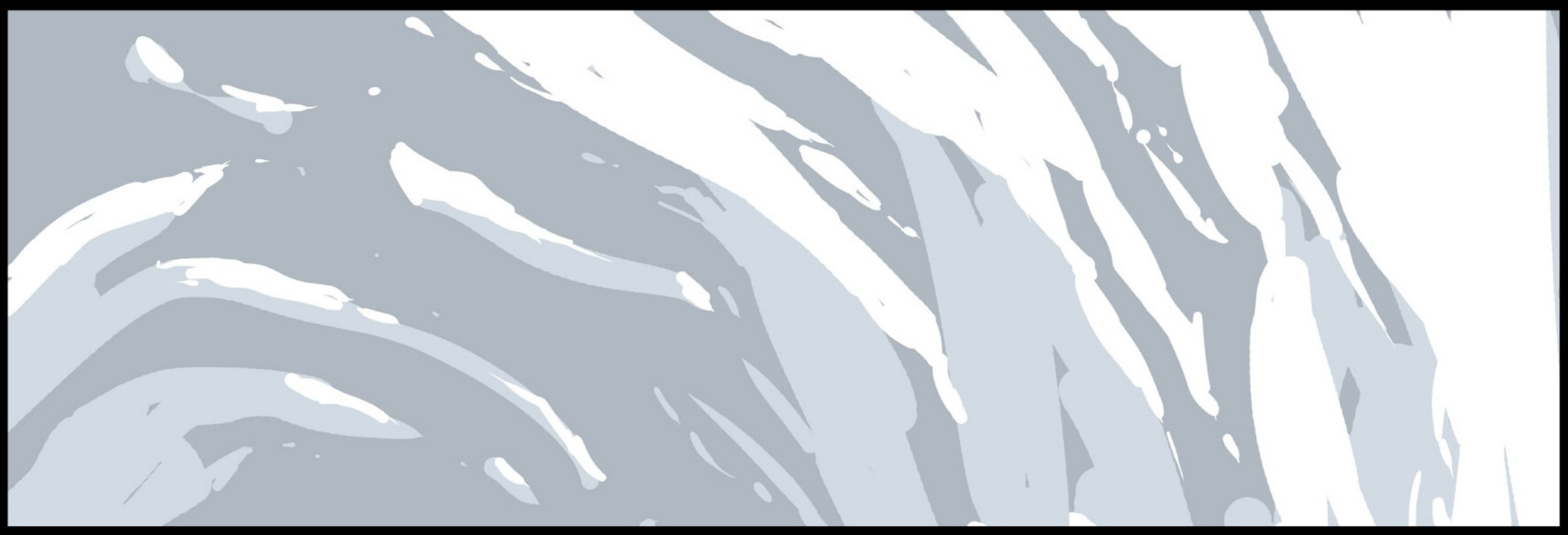
YOU SAY SOMETHING?

HOW ABOUT YOU PUT THE PHONE AWAY AND WE CHAT? I JUST TOOK YOU ON A BIG TRIP. MAYBE YOU COULD SHOW A LITTLE ***APPRECIATION?***

THIS TRIP WASN'T ***MY*** IDEA. I DON'T KNOW ***HOW TO SKI...*** AND I DIDN'T ***WANT TO LEARN.*** I JUST WANNA BE BACK IN LA WITH MY ***FRIENDS.***

BEING ON TOP OF A **FREEZING MOUNTAIN** IN THE MIDDLE OF ***WYOMING*** IS ***NOT*** MY IDEA OF ***FUN.***

SORRY IF I DON'T SEEM APPRECIATIVE.



Whoa...

OH GOD...
DAD!

DAD!

I'M RIGHT HERE! HANG ON! I'LL BE THERE IN A SECOND!

I'M COMING!

YOU OK?

I DON'T REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED... JUST THAT WE WERE DRIVING... AND THEN...

DAD?

SAY SOMETHING.

SAY *ANYTHING...*

TELL ME YOU'RE OK.

TELL ME WE'RE GONNA BE *ALL RIGHT...*

COME ON! *WAKE UP!*

WE GOTTA GET OUTTA HERE...

THIS ISN'T A JOKE. WE'RE GONNA FREEZE IF YOU DON'T GET UP...

PLEASE...

CAN YOU HEAR ME?

I'M SO SORRY... I DIDN'T MEAN WHAT I SAID... I DIDN'T MEAN IT. I SWEAR I DIDN'T... DAD... I...

MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT... MAYBE WE JUST LIE HERE AND REST FOR A WHILE.

AND WHEN YOU'RE READY, WE'LL GET UP AND GO...

MAYBE WE JUST SLEEP FOR A WHILE...

A NICE LONG WHILE...

Huh?

MOM! DAD!

IS ANYONE ELSE HERE? WHERE ARE YOU GUYS? WHY'S IT SO COLD?

JESUS... IT'S FREEZING.

CAN SOMEBODY TURN UP THE HEAT?

IS ANYBODY HERE? *HELLO?!*

IS THAT *SNOW?*

WHY ARE THESE DOORS OPEN?

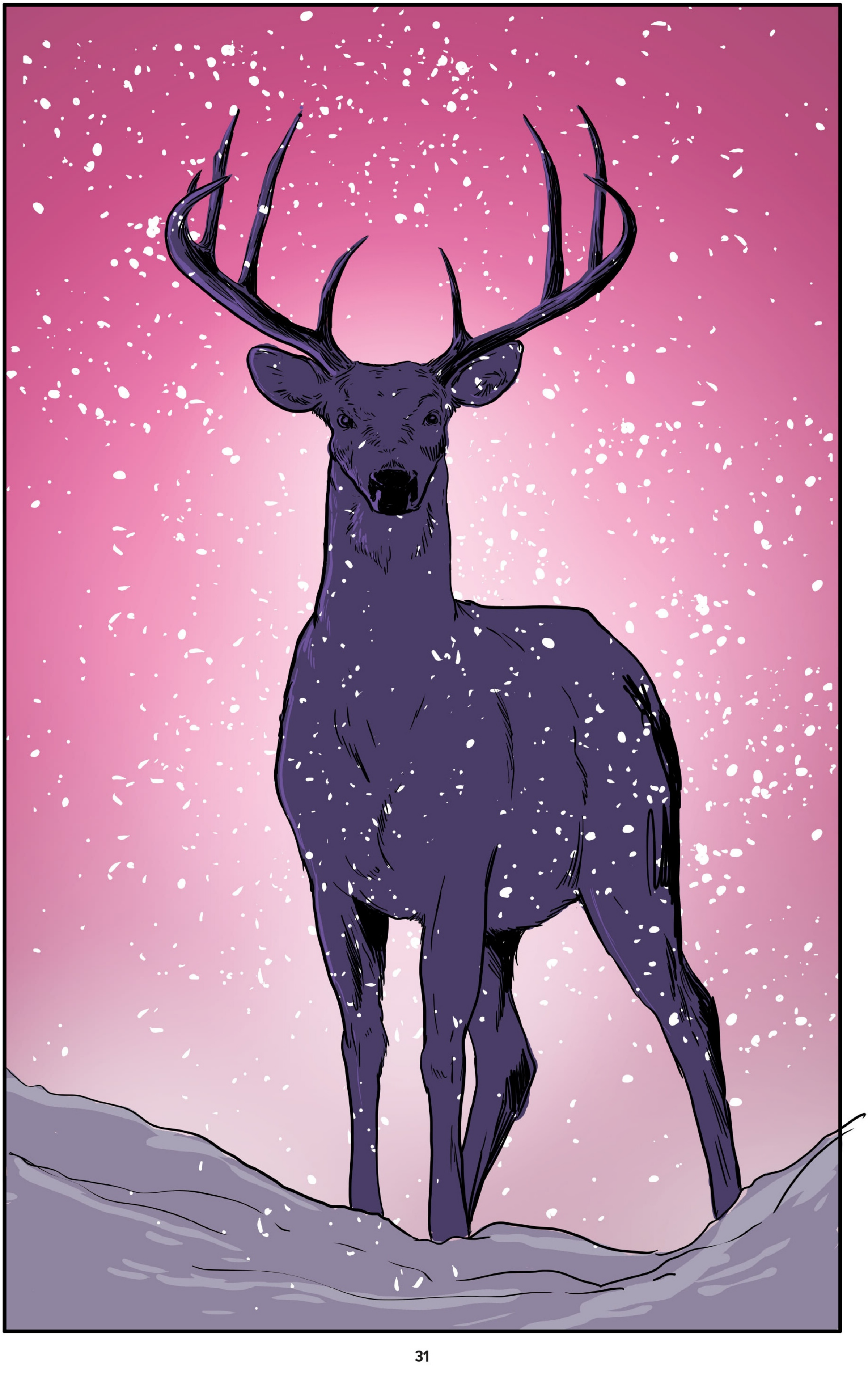
GOTTA SHUT THESE DOORS BEFORE I TURN INTO A POPSICLE.

UMGH!

WIND IS SO STRONG...

SHUT, DAMN IT!

WHOA!
WHAT THE HECK?



DAD... WHY IS IT *SO COLD?*

ODDS ARE... YOU SUFFERED A PRETTY BAD *CONCUSSION* GOING THROUGH THAT *WINDSHIELD.*

THE *LAST THING* YOU WANT TO DO RIGHT NOW IS *TAKE A NAP.*

WHAT DID YOU SAY? BUT... YOU'RE A *DOCTOR,* CAN'T *YOU* FIX IT?

JACK... FOCUS. YOUR *BREATHING* IS BECOMING SHALLOW.

YOUR TEMPERATURE IS *FALLING FAST.*

YOU DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME. YOU HAVE TO *ACT.*

AND *I* CAN'T FIX THIS... *YOU'RE* GOING TO HAVE TO DO THIS ON *YOUR OWN.* SORRY, KID.

YOU'VE RUN AWAY FROM *EVERY CHALLENGE* YOU'VE EVER FACED...

...MAYBE IT'S *MY FAULT* FOR LETTING YOU.

BUT THIS CHALLENGE IS *DIFFERENT.* YOU CAN'T *RUN FROM THIS.*

IF YOU DON'T *FIND* THE WILL TO *GET UP* AND *GET MOVING,* YOU'RE GOING TO *DIE* HERE.

I DON'T WANT TO DIE.

I HAVE TO GET UP. *NOW.*

I'LL FIND THE PHONE.

I'LL CALL FOR HELP.

IT'S GOTTA BE HERE SOMEWHERE...

YES! THANK GOD!

AND IT'S STILL GOT SOME *JUICE.*

COME ON, BABY, COME ON!

No Service

Calendar

Contacts

Messages

Weather

Reminders

Notes

Video

Google Maps

DAMN IT.

No Service

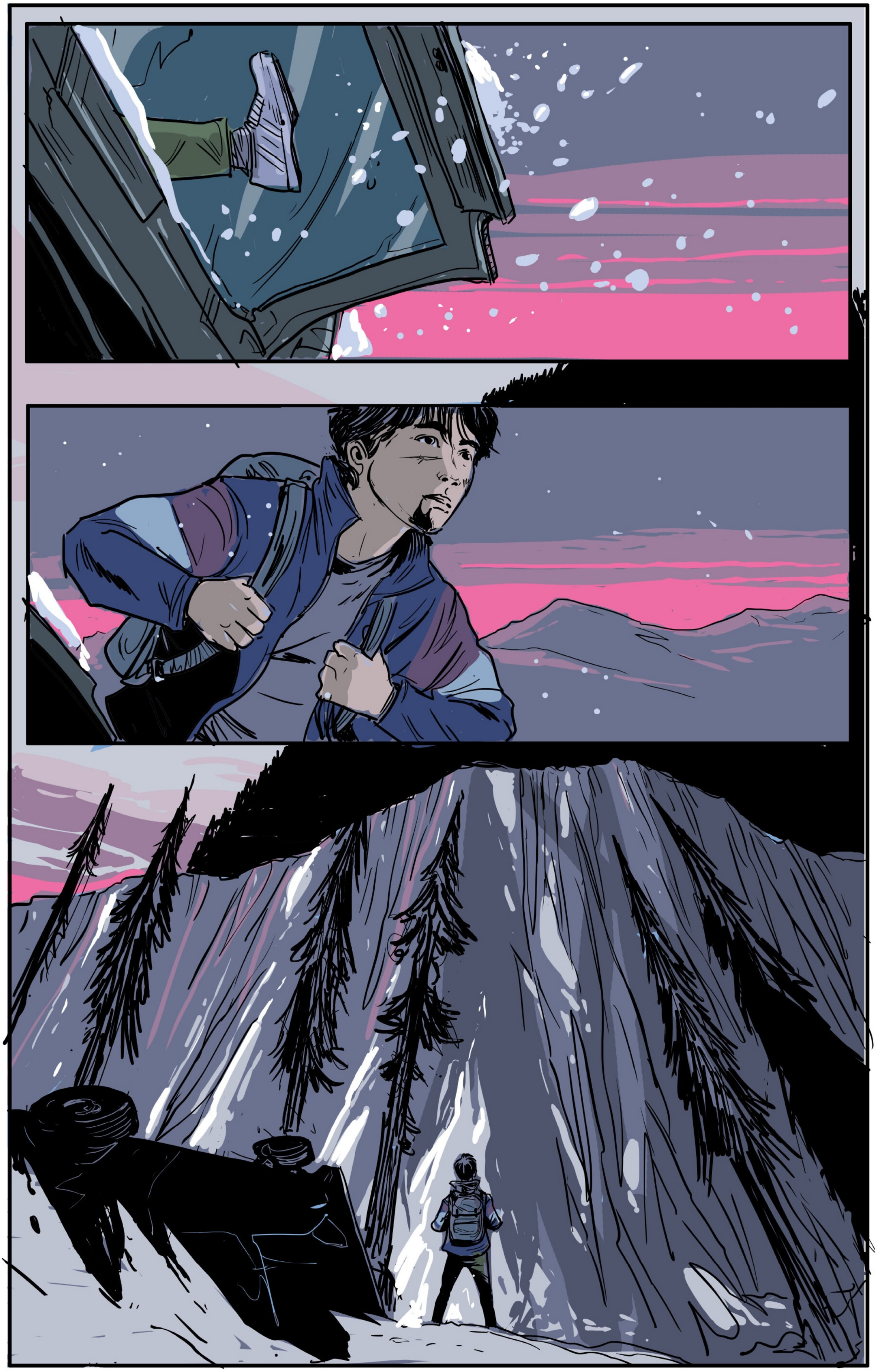
JUST GOTTA GET OUT OF THIS *RAVINE.*

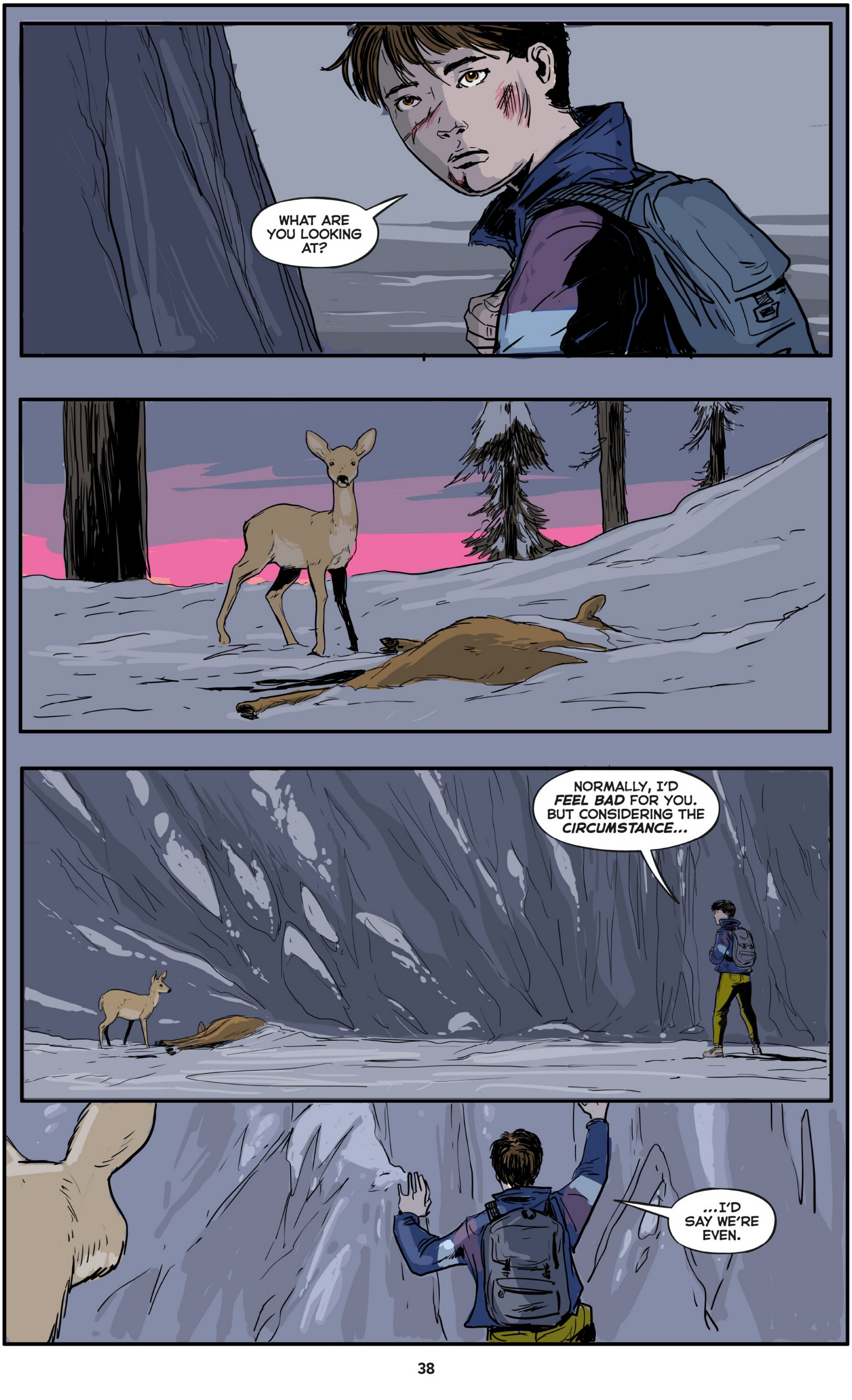
HIKE UP A LITTLE WAYS, THEN I'LL GET SERVICE AND I CAN *GET OUT OF HERE.*

CORN NUTS. A COUPLE OF WATER BOTTLES. DAD. *ALWAYS PREPARED.*

FIRST AID

GRAB THE *FIRST-AID KIT...* AND THESE... THESE LOOK *USEFUL.*




WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT?
NORMALLY, I'D *FEEL BAD* FOR YOU. BUT CONSIDERING THE *CIRCUMSTANCE...*
...I'D SAY WE'RE EVEN.

I JUST NEED TO GET UP THIS RIDGE... AND ONTO THE ROAD.

I'LL BE ABLE TO CALL FOR HELP. OR FLAG SOMEONE DOWN.

GLOVES WOULD HAVE BEEN A GOOD IDEA...

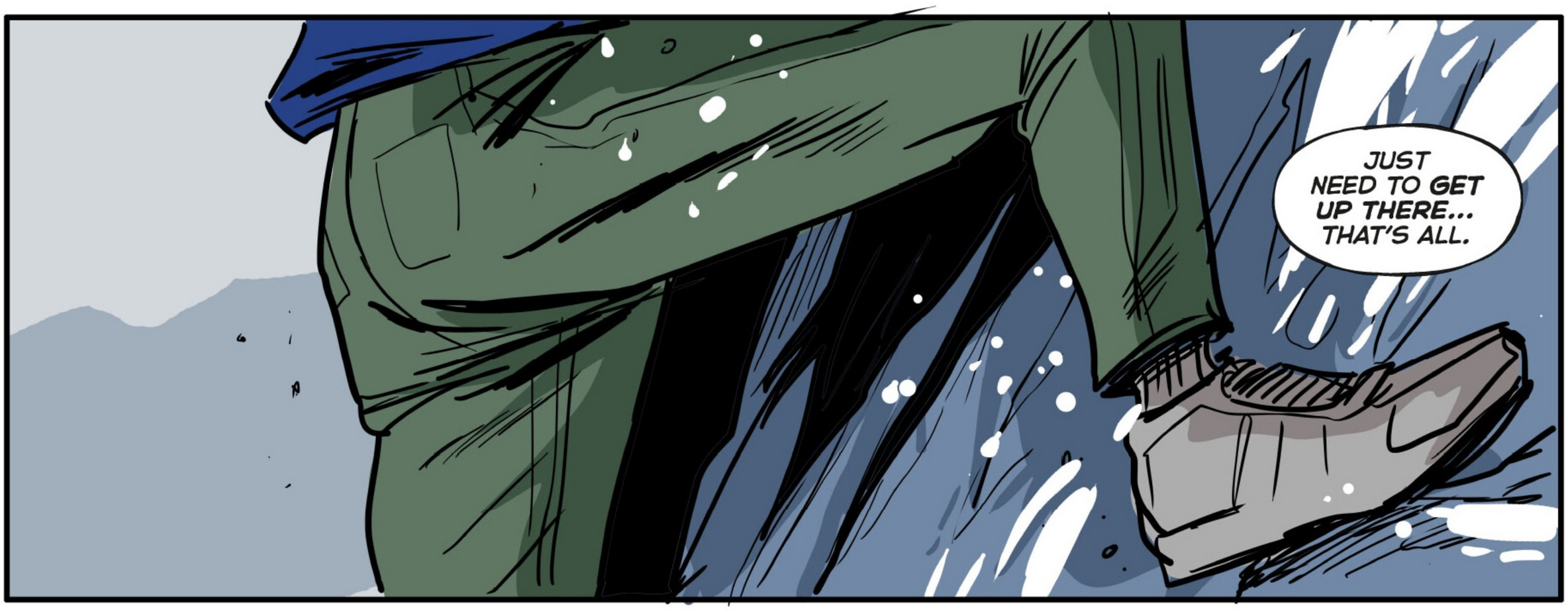
OH NO!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
GET AWAY FROM ME!
THIS IS ALL YOUR FAULT. YOU AND YOUR STUPID MOTHER!
IF IT WASN'T FOR YOU... NONE OF THIS WOULD HAVE HAPPENED!
YOU DID THIS.
DON'T COME NEAR ME.
I WILL HURT YOU. I'M NOT KIDDING.
DON'T MAKE ME...
I WILL!

I SAID GET AWAY!

YOU CAN GO TO *HELL* FOR ALL I CARE...

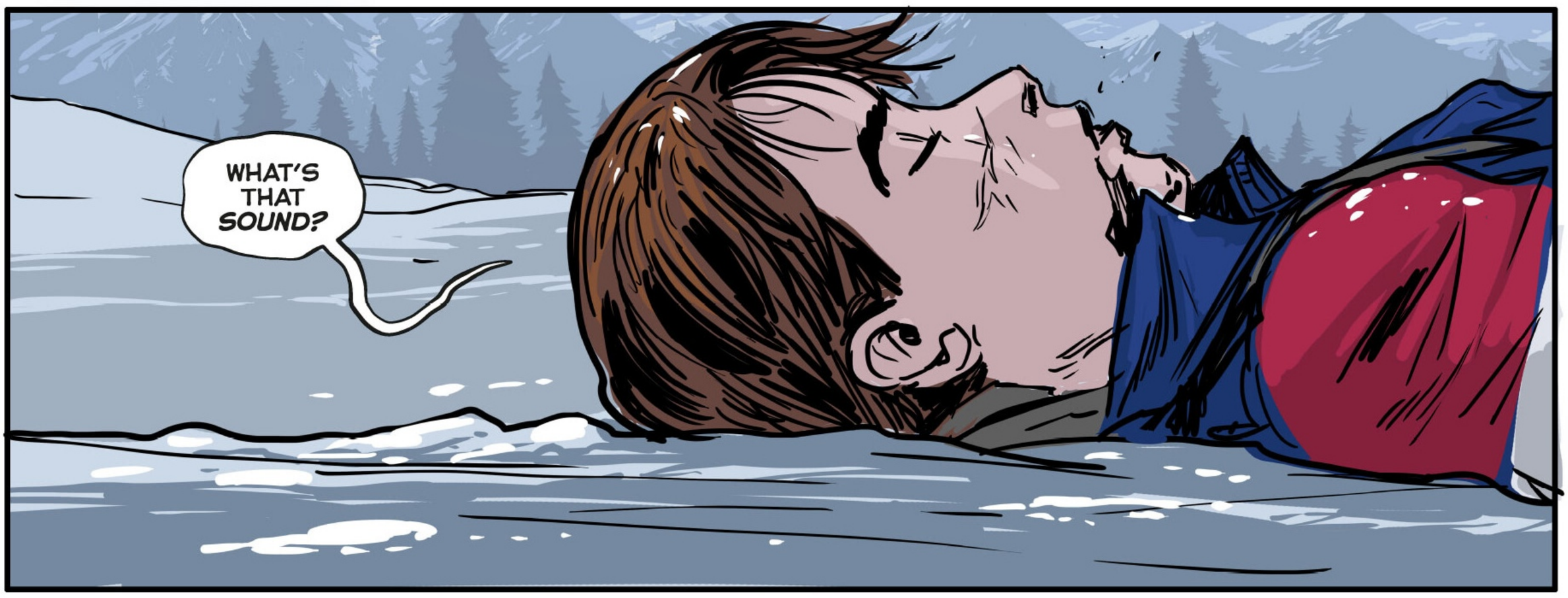
I'M NOT GOING TO FALL... JUST NEED TO KEEP CLIMBING. MY FINGERS CAN FREEZE...


JUST NEED TO GET UP THERE... THAT'S ALL.

CRAP.

YAHHH!

WHUNHH!


WHAT'S THAT SOUND?

LOOKS LIKE... SOMEONE'S COMING...

WHAT ARE THOSE? RESCUE DOGS?

CHAPTER 2

THOSE ARE... NOT RESCUE DOGS.

OH GOD... IT'S COMING THIS WAY...

THERE'S ALWAYS **ONE**, NO MATTER **HOW HARD** HE **FIGHTS FOR IT**, HE NEVER GETS HIS **SHARE**. THE **RUNT** OF THE LITTER...

WHAT DO I DO?!

OK... THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IS... DO NOT RUN.

NO MATTER WHAT... DO NOT RUN...

I'M NOT RUNNING.

I'M NOT RUNNING.

I'M NOT RUNNING.

I'M NOT RUNNING.

OH CRAP. I'M TOTALLY RUNNING...

AND NOW... I'M FAAAAALLLING!

BLEYAGH!

THAT WAS *TOO* CLOSE...

NOW WHERE AM I? I'LL NEVER **GET BACK** TO THE ROAD...

GOTTA FIND A WAY THAT **AVOIDS** THOSE **WOLVES.** MAYBE FOLLOW THIS **RIVER?** GET CELL SERVICE... CALL FOR HELP?

WHAT WOULD **DAD** DO? HE'D NEVER HAVE GOTTEN HIMSELF SCREWED IN THE **FIRST PLACE.**

I'M SUCH AN **IDIOT.**

HEY... WHAT'S **THAT** UP THERE?

YOU'VE GOT *INSTINCTS.* I BET YOU KNOW HOW TO GET OUT OF HERE...
DON'T RUN AWAY! WE'RE IN THIS *TOGETHER!*
I'M *SORRY* ABOUT BEFORE!
COME ON! DON'T BE SCARED NOW.
YOU *GOTTA* HELP ME... I'M IN *TROUBLE...*
I'M SORRY, ALL RIGHT!
I WAS A *JERK!* I DIDN'T MEAN WHAT I SAID!
NOW... JUST *SLOW DOWN...*

SERIOUSLY, JUST LET ME FOLLOW YOU.
I DON'T KNOW WHERE I AM!
HEY! WATCH WHERE YOU'RE GOING!
IT'S BEEN PRETTY WARM AND I DON'T KNOW...
...ABOUT THAT ICE!
CRUNCH!

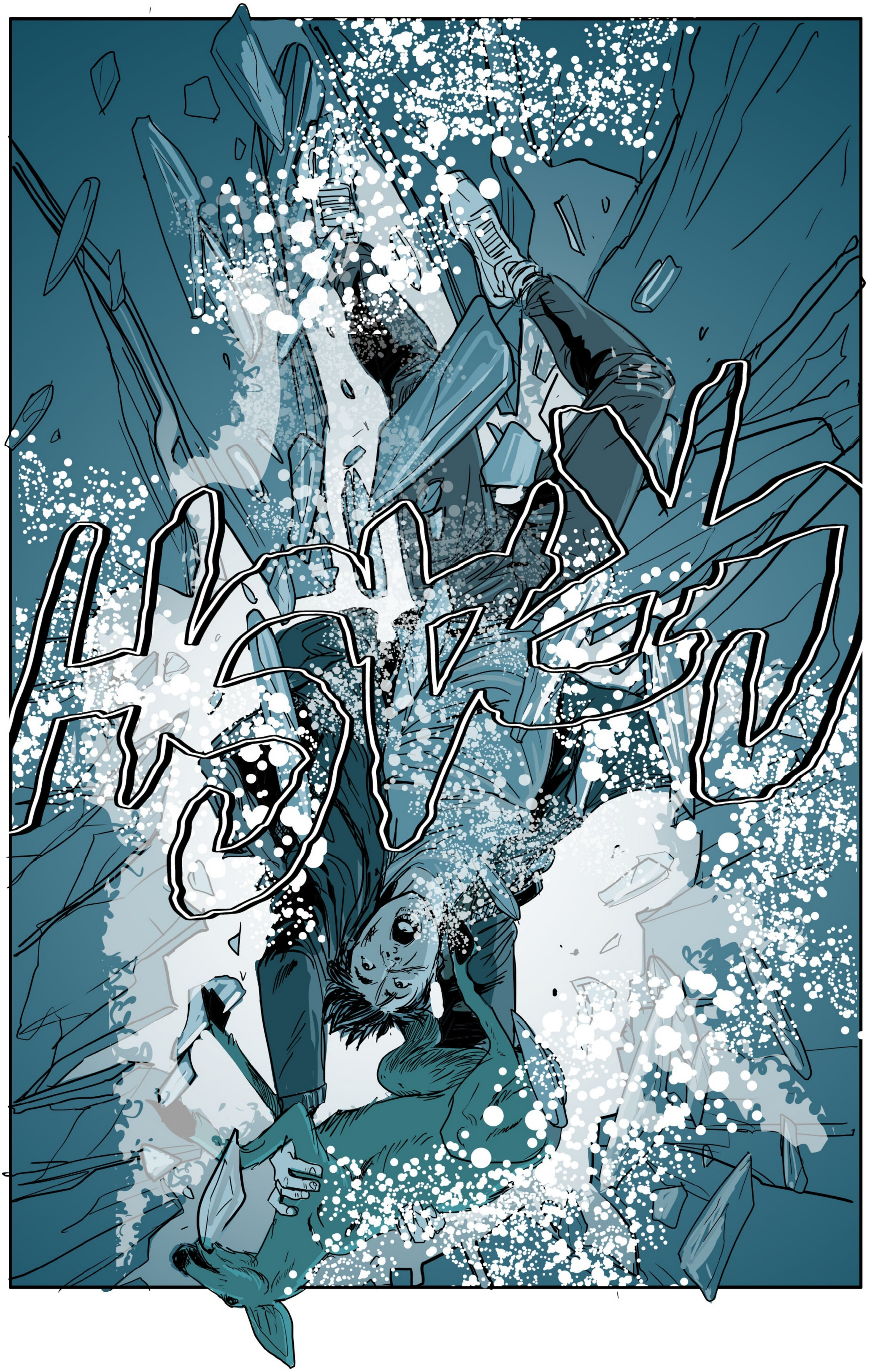
I GOT YOU!

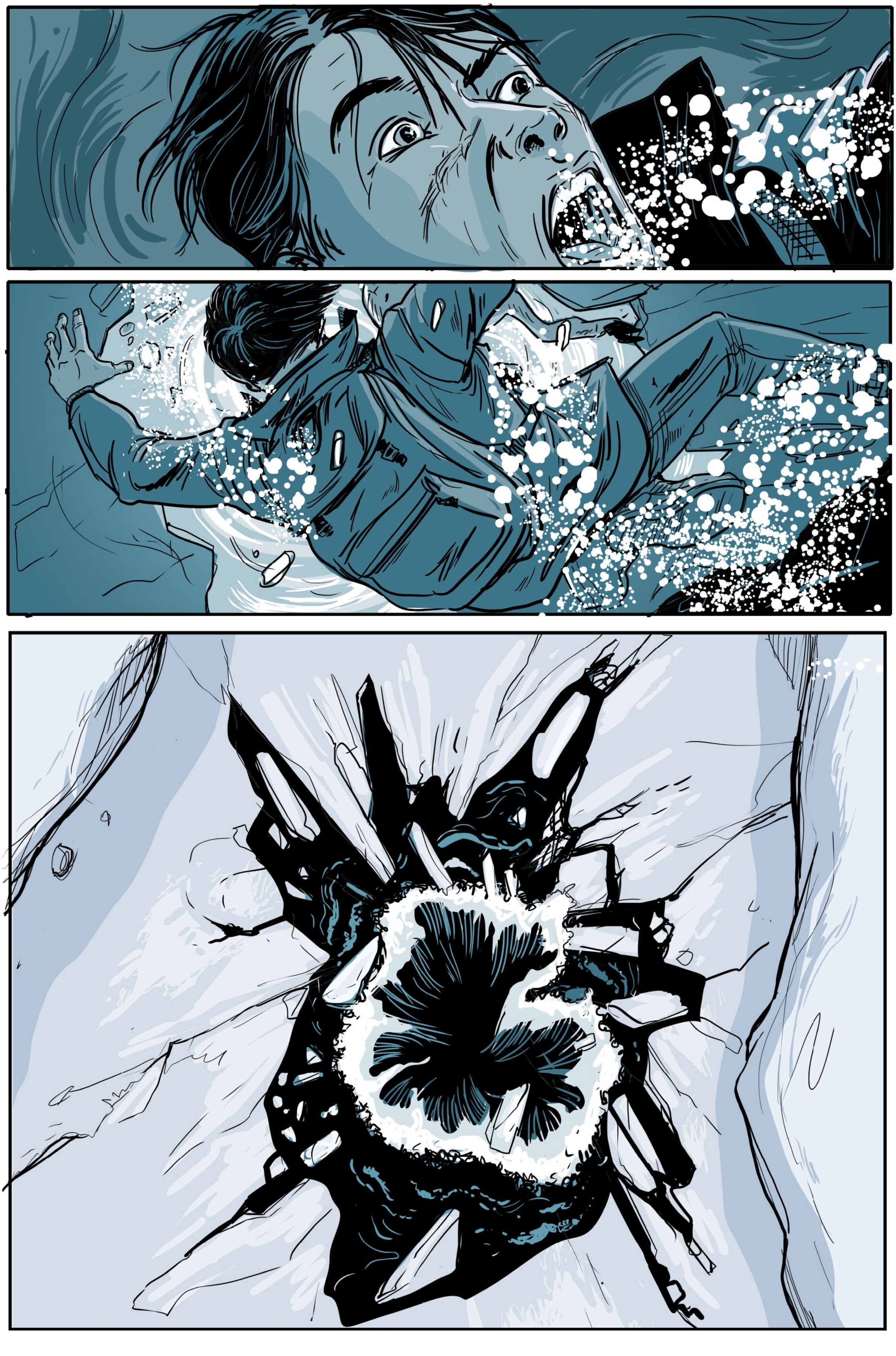
IT'S *SPRING* ALREADY. THIS *ICE ISN'T SAFE!*

OH, WHAT DO *YOU* KNOW? YOU'RE A *BABY...*

JUST LUCKY I *CAUGHT YOU...*

ALSO, *LUCKY* THAT I KNOW TO SPREAD OUT AND *DISTRIBUTE MY WEIGHT* SO WE DON'T BOTH GO...





GREAT... IN ADDITION TO BEING *LOST IN THE WILDERNESS*, NOW WE'RE *WET AND COLD...*

I JUST SAVED *YOUR LIFE...* NOW YOU NEED TO HELP *ME.* CAN *YOU* DO THAT? CAN *YOU* HELP *ME* GET DOWN THIS *MOUNTAIN?*

AND, ALSO, *THANKS TO YOU,* EVERYTHING IS *SOAKED.*

NOOOOO!

NOT THE PHONE. THE CRACKED *SCREEN.* IT'S *USELESS* NOW...

YAARRRGH!

WITHOUT THE *PHONE*, WE HAVE TO WAIT FOR *THEM* TO FIND *US*.

LET'S SEE WHAT WE'VE GOT.

WE HAVE... THREE STANDARD-ISSUE *ROAD FLARES.* SOAKING WET BUT SUPPOSEDLY WATERPROOF.

TWO BAGS OF *CORN NUTS...*

TWO BOTTLES OF *WATER...*

ONE VOLVO-ISSUE *FIRST-AID KIT...*

AND ONE SIX-HUNDRED-DOLLAR *PAPERWEIGHT.*

DO YOU KNOW WHAT THESE ARE? THEY'RE CALLED ***CORN NUTS.*** THESE ONES ARE ***RANCH FLAVOR.***

THEY'RE DELICIOUS AND ***I THINK...*** MAYBE SORT OF ***NUTRITIOUS.***

I ***THINK*** YOU'LL LIKE THEM.

HERE, ***TRY SOME...***

I BET YOU'RE AN INSTANT FAN.

COME ON, SERIOUSLY.

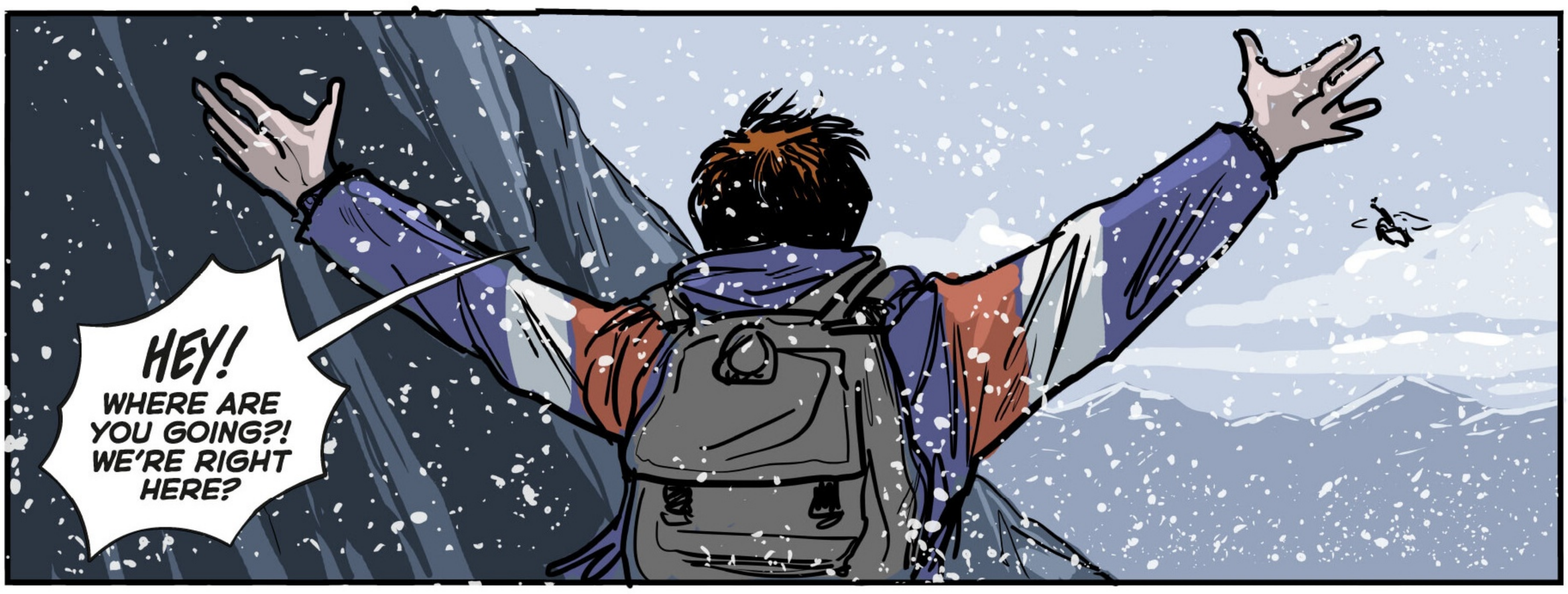
YOU'RE STRANDED IN THE MIDDLE OF A ***FROZEN WASTELAND*** AND YOU'RE GONNA PASS UP ***CORN NUTS?***

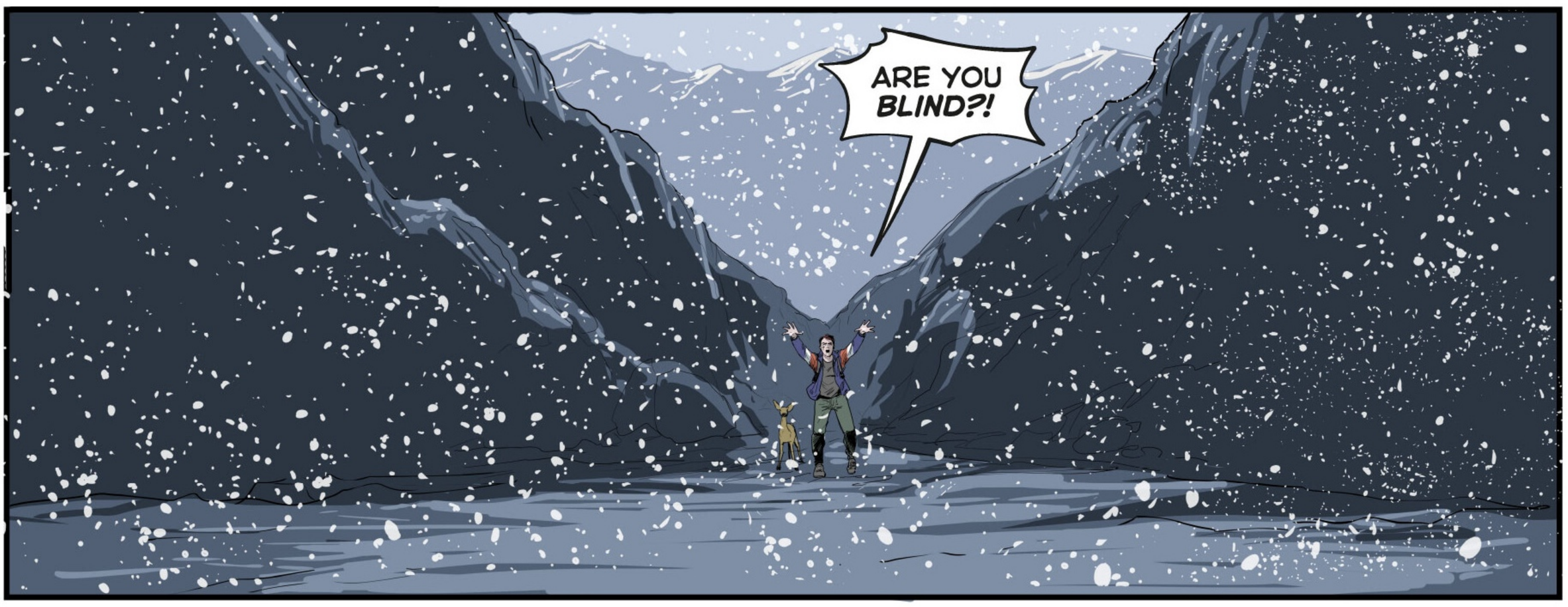
I DIDN'T THINK SO. ***GOOD BOY.***

COME ON, STORM'S PICKING UP. BUT AT LEAST WE'RE GOING DOWNHILL.

BETTER THAN HAVING TO GO UP, ***RIGHT?***

YOU HEAR SOMETHING?
I HEAR IT, TOO!
IT'S A HELICOPTER. WE'RE GONNA BE RESCUED!
HEY! OVER HERE! WE'RE OVER HERE!
COME ON DOWN! COME ON!


HEY!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?! WE'RE RIGHT HERE?


ARE YOU BLIND?!

WE'RE HERE! JUST TURN AROUND AND DROP US A LINE OR WHATEVER YOU DO!!

COME BACK HERE! PLEASE!

THIS ISN'T FUNNY!
COME BACK! WE'RE RIGHT HERE!!

PLEASE! IT'S *FREEZING COLD!* WE'RE *SOAKING WET!*

PLEASE... I'M *BEGGING...* I DON'T WANT TO *DIE* OUT HERE...
PLEASE, DON'T LET ME *DIE...*

BEFORE YOU *FELL IN THAT RIVER,* YOU WERE RUNNING ALL OVER LIKE *A CHAMP.*

NOW YOU CAN BARELY *KEEP UP WITH ME.*

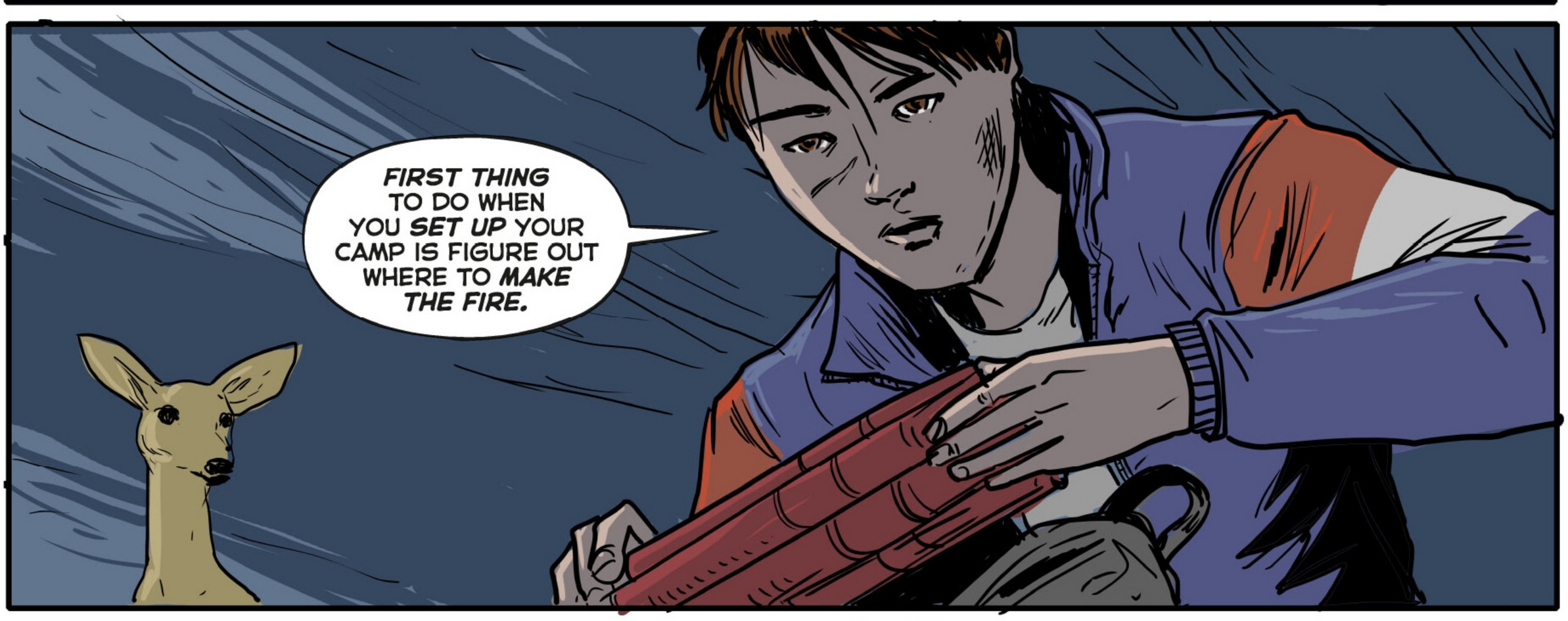
I SEE. IT'S *YOUR LEG.* MUST'VE HURT IT WHEN YOU *FELL IN...*

MAYBE WE STOP HERE FOR THE NIGHT.

IT'LL BE *SAFE* IN THERE... AND YOU CAN *REST...*

THIS WILL BE A GOOD SPOT. OUT OF THE SNOW...

WE'RE GONNA NEED TO START A FIRE.
MY DAD TAUGHT ME THAT...


FIRST THING TO DO WHEN YOU SET UP YOUR CAMP IS FIGURE OUT WHERE TO MAKE THE FIRE.

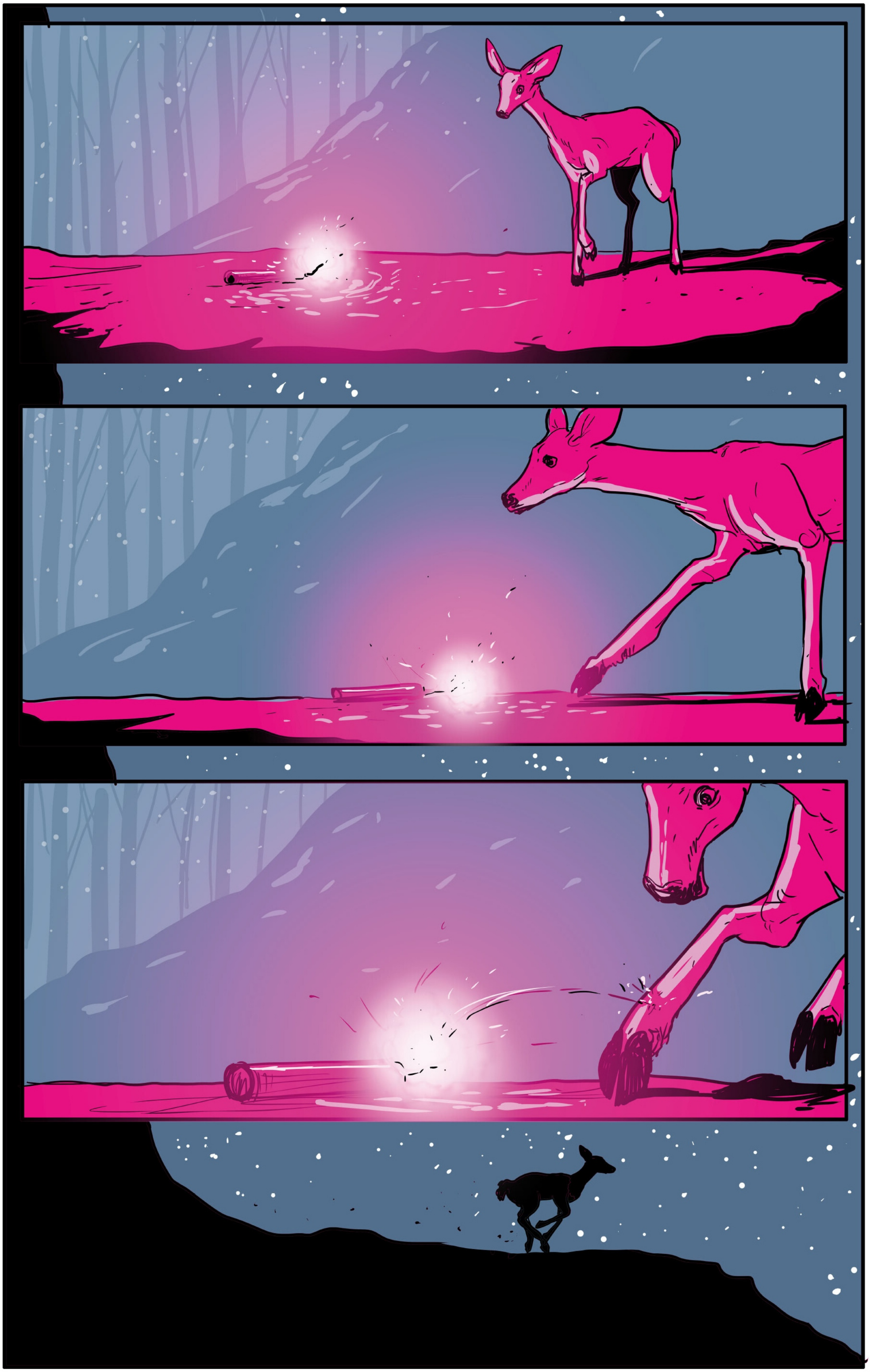
INSTRUCTIONS:
1. HOLD FLARE BELOW BLACK LINE
2. REMOVE CAP, REVEALING IGNITOR
3. STRIKE CAP AGAINST IGNITOR SURFACE
4. DO NOT HOLD FLARE FOR MORE THAN 15 SECONDS BEFORE SETTING DOWN
WE CAN USE THESE FLARES TO GET IT GOING... THEN WE NEED TO FIND SOME KINDLING...

DON'T BE *AFRAID.* I WON'T *HURT* YOU.

THIS WILL KEEP THE *WOLVES* AWAY, AND KEEP US *WARM.*

YOU STAY HERE.

I'LL FIND SOME KINDLING.



Huh?

OH, IT'S *YOU*...

YOU THINK I'M *AFRAID* OF YOU? WELL, *SURPRISE.* I'M *NOT.*

YOU'RE ALL ALONE. AND SO AM I.

BUT I'M *BIGGER* AND *SMARTER* THAN YOU. AND I'VE HAD A *PRETTY TERRIBLE DAY...*

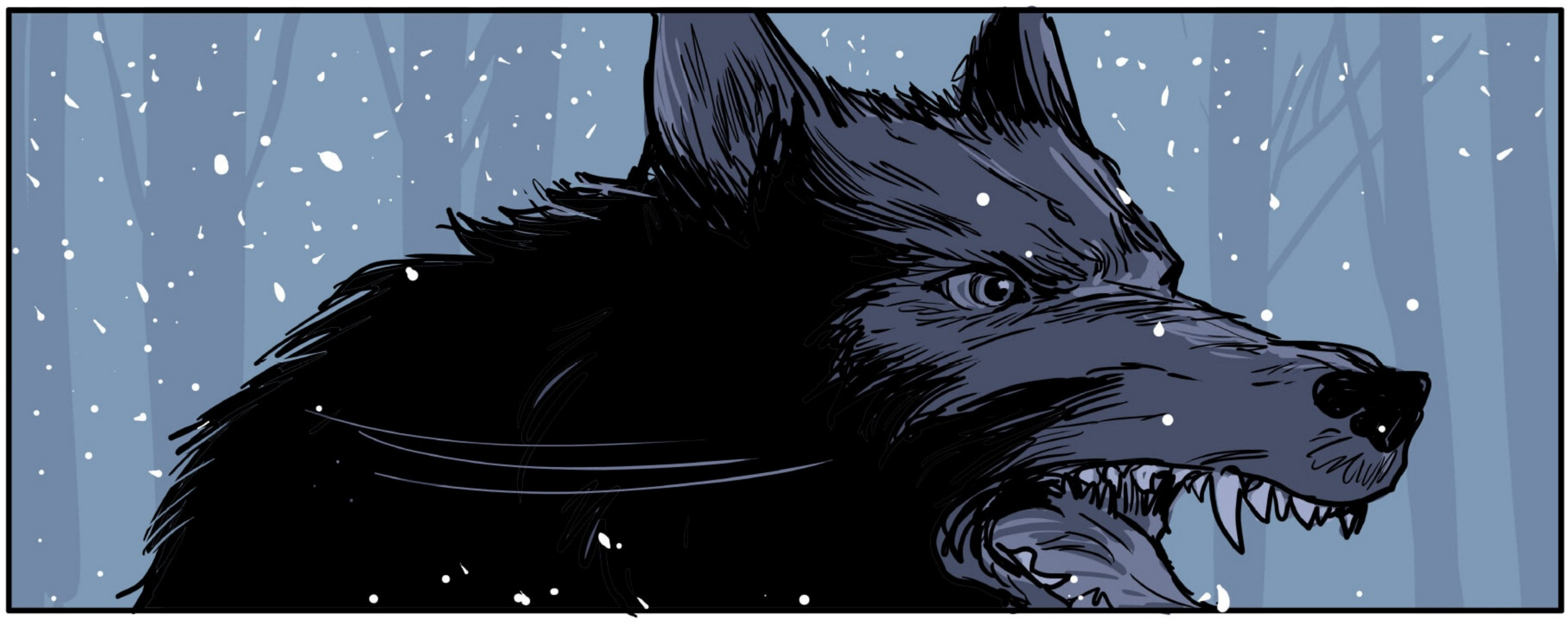
SO, IF YOU WANT TO GET *WHACKED UPSIDE* THE HEAD WITH *THIS STICK,* KEEP COMING.

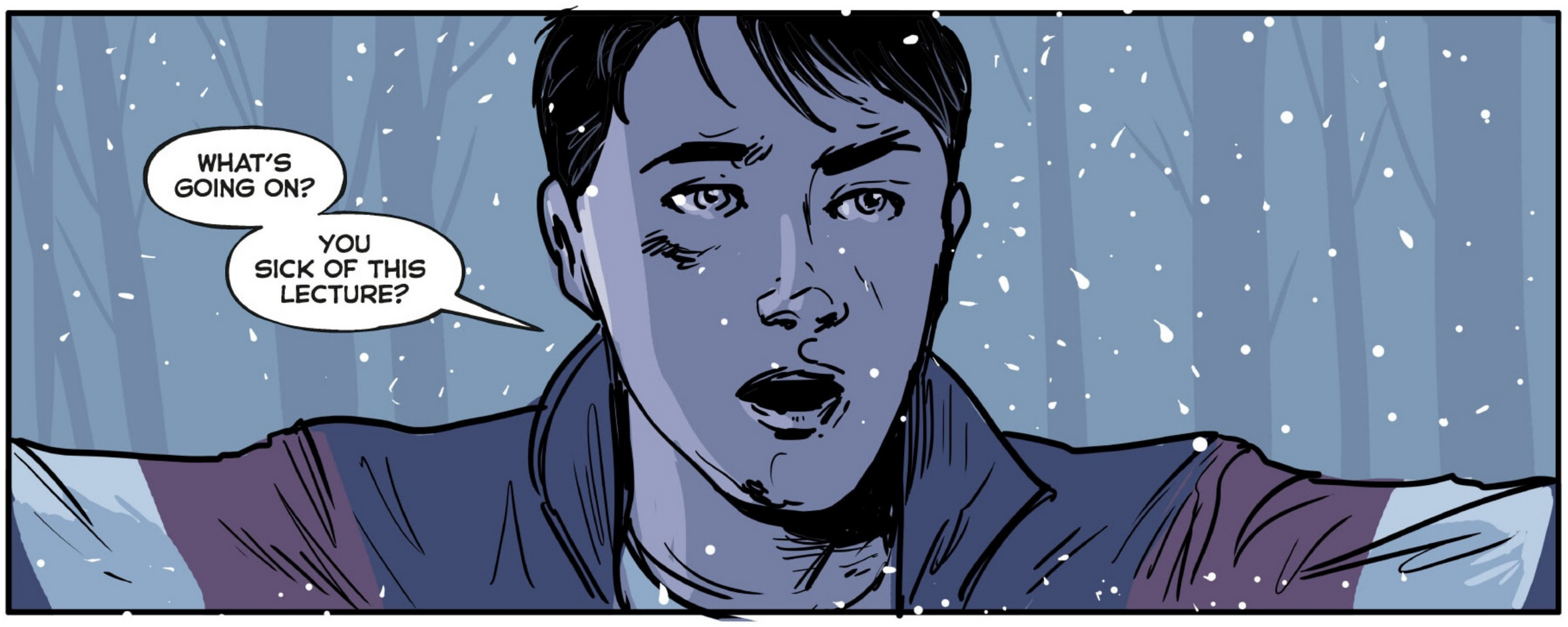
NOTHING WOULD MAKE ME *HAPPIER* THAN TO TAKE A FEW SWINGS AT *YOU!*

I *KNOW* WHO YOU ARE! YOU'RE THE *RUNT!* YOU *FIGHT FOR SCRAPS* AND YOU'RE *STILL HUNGRY.*

WELL, SORRY, BUT THERE'S NO MORE *BUFFET* FOR YOU. YOU'RE GOING TO BED *HUNGRY!*

NOW GET OUT OF HERE! CRAWL BACK TO YOUR DEN OR *WHEREVER YOU CAME FROM!*




WHAT'S GOING ON?
YOU SICK OF THIS LECTURE?

DON'T YOU *DARE.*

UNH!

STOP!

STOP, I SAID!

YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO GO THROUGH *ME.* AND *I DON'T THINK* YOU WANNA DO *THAT...*

HOW ABOUT YOU *PICK ON SOMEONE YOUR OWN SIZE.*

I DIDN'T THINK SO...

NOW GO!

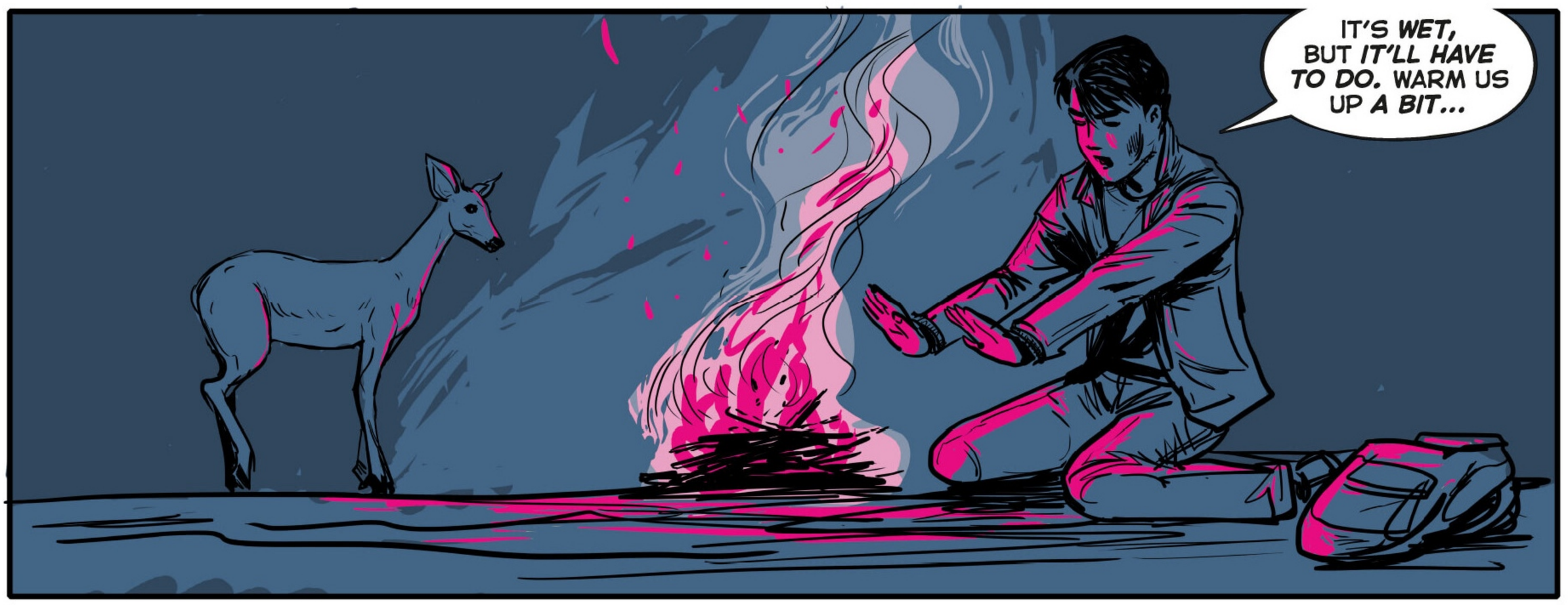
GET LOST!

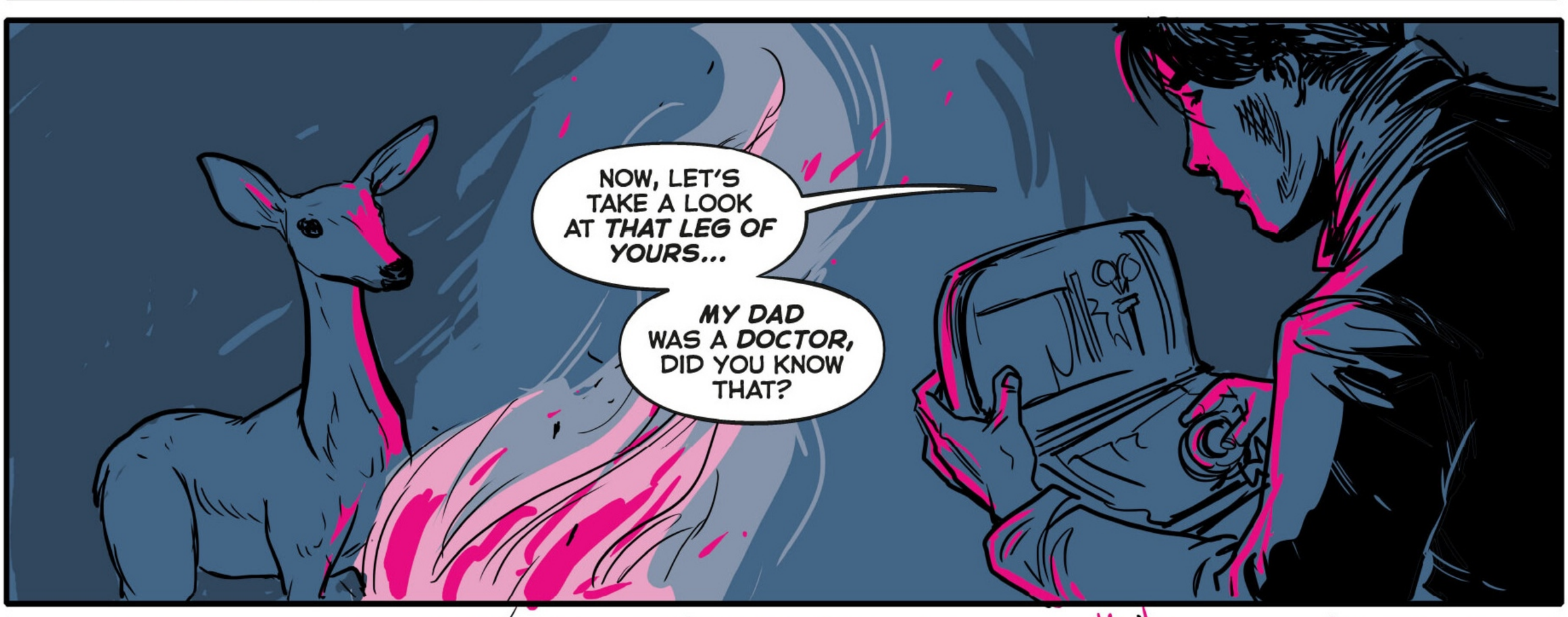
YOU HEARD ME!

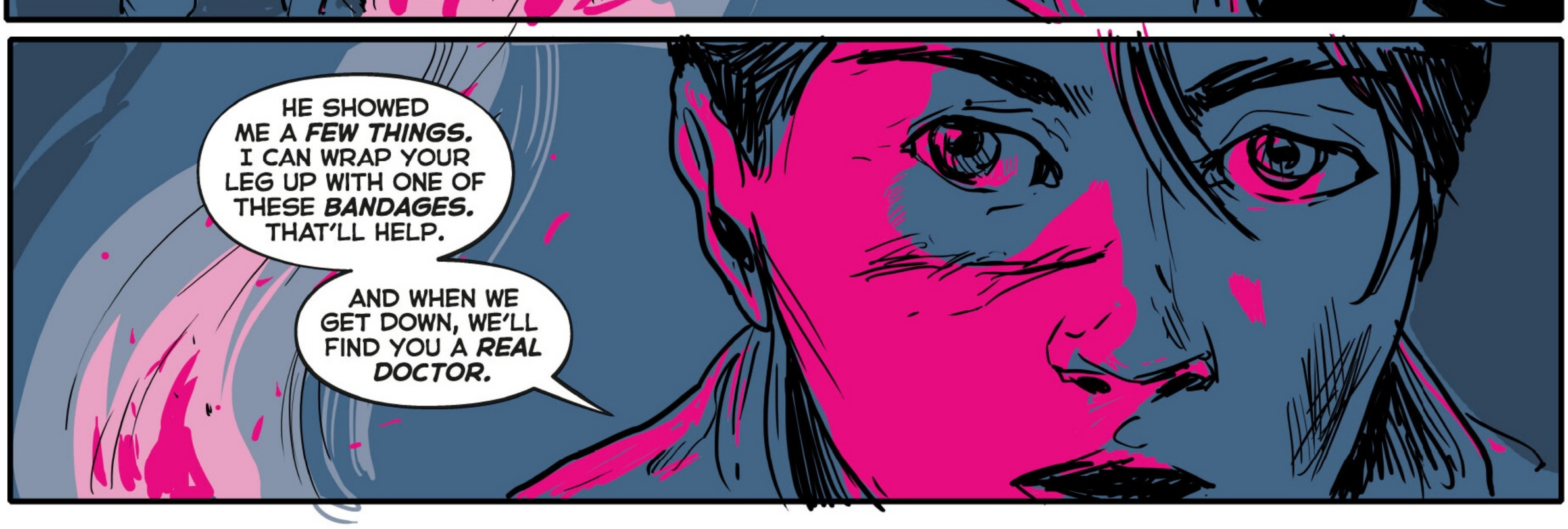
WOW. I *CAN'T BELIEVE* THAT WORKED...

I THINK I *PEED* MYSELF... SORRY FOR LEAVING YOU BEHIND. I *SHOULDN'T* HAVE DONE THAT...

FROM NOW ON, WE *STICK TOGETHER*... UNTIL WE'RE *SAFE*.


IT'S WET, BUT IT'LL HAVE TO DO. WARM US UP A BIT...


NOW, LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT THAT LEG OF YOURS...
MY DAD WAS A DOCTOR, DID YOU KNOW THAT?


HE SHOWED ME A FEW THINGS. I CAN WRAP YOUR LEG UP WITH ONE OF THESE BANDAGES. THAT'LL HELP.
AND WHEN WE GET DOWN, WE'LL FIND YOU A REAL DOCTOR.

COME HERE. *I PROMISE* THIS WON'T HURT ONE BIT.

AND I'M *NOT* JUST SAYING THAT...

SEE, HAVE SOME MORE OF THESE *CORN NUTS* AND YOU WON'T EVEN PAY ANY ATTENTION TO THAT *OLD LEG...*

LOOK AT *THAT!* HOW EASY WAS THAT? NOW I BET YOU CAN WALK *A LOT BETTER...*

I PROMISE, I'M GONNA GET YOU *DOWN THIS MOUNTAIN* AND TAKE YOU TO *A VET.*

AND ONCE WE GET YOU *PATCHED UP,* WE'LL BRING YOU *BACK UP HERE* AND HELP YOU FIND *YOUR PEOPLE,* OK?

MY DAD THOUGHT THIS TRIP WAS GONNA *TOUGHEN ME UP.* MAKE A MAN OUT OF ME. I GUESS HE GOT WHAT HE WANTED...

THAT'S A PRETTY AWFUL THING TO SAY.

I REALLY *WISH* NONE OF THIS *EVER HAPPENED.* I WISH I WAS *HOME.* I WISH I *NEVER WENT SKIING.* WISH I NEVER SET FOOT ON THIS MOUNTAIN...

YOUR MOM WOULD BE *ALIVE,* THEN, TOO...

MAYBE, IF I WASN'T SUCH A *WIMP* HE NEVER WOULD HAVE HAD TO *TAKE ME OUT HERE.* IF I WAS *TOUGH ENOUGH,* MAYBE HE WOULD'VE *LEFT ME ALONE.*

WELL, THE TRUTH IS, I'M *NOT* THAT KID...

I'M NOT *TOUGH.* I WANT A *WARM BED.* I WANNA BE *HOME...*

WHAT'S SO TOUGH ABOUT SKIING ANYWAY...

CHAPTER 3

FEELING VERY OUT OF CONTROL HERE!
WHAT DO I DO?!

I'M *SERIOUS*... ARE THESE THINGS SUPPOSED TO BE *SHAKING THIS MUCH?!*

AND I'M HEADING FOR... *OH MAN...*

WHY IS THERE *A CLIFF* HERE?!

AAAIIIEEE!

WHY WOULD YOU LET ME *DO THIS?!* I COULD HAVE BEEN *KILLED!*

YOU DID THE *RIGHT THING.* YOU WERE *OUT OF CONTROL* AND YOU *BAILED...*

I ALMOST WENT OVER THE FRIGGIN' EDGE!

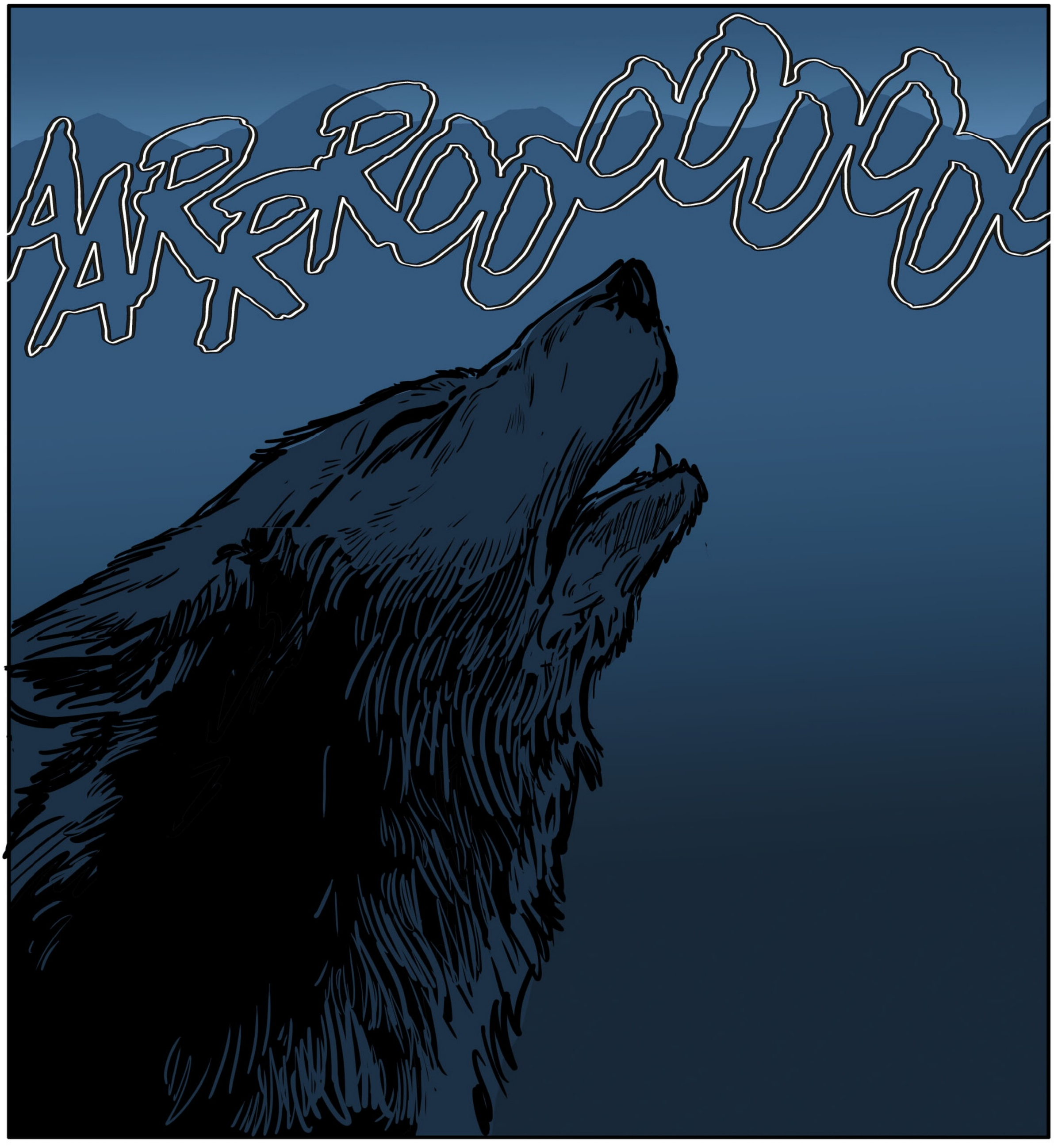
BUT YOU *DIDN'T.*

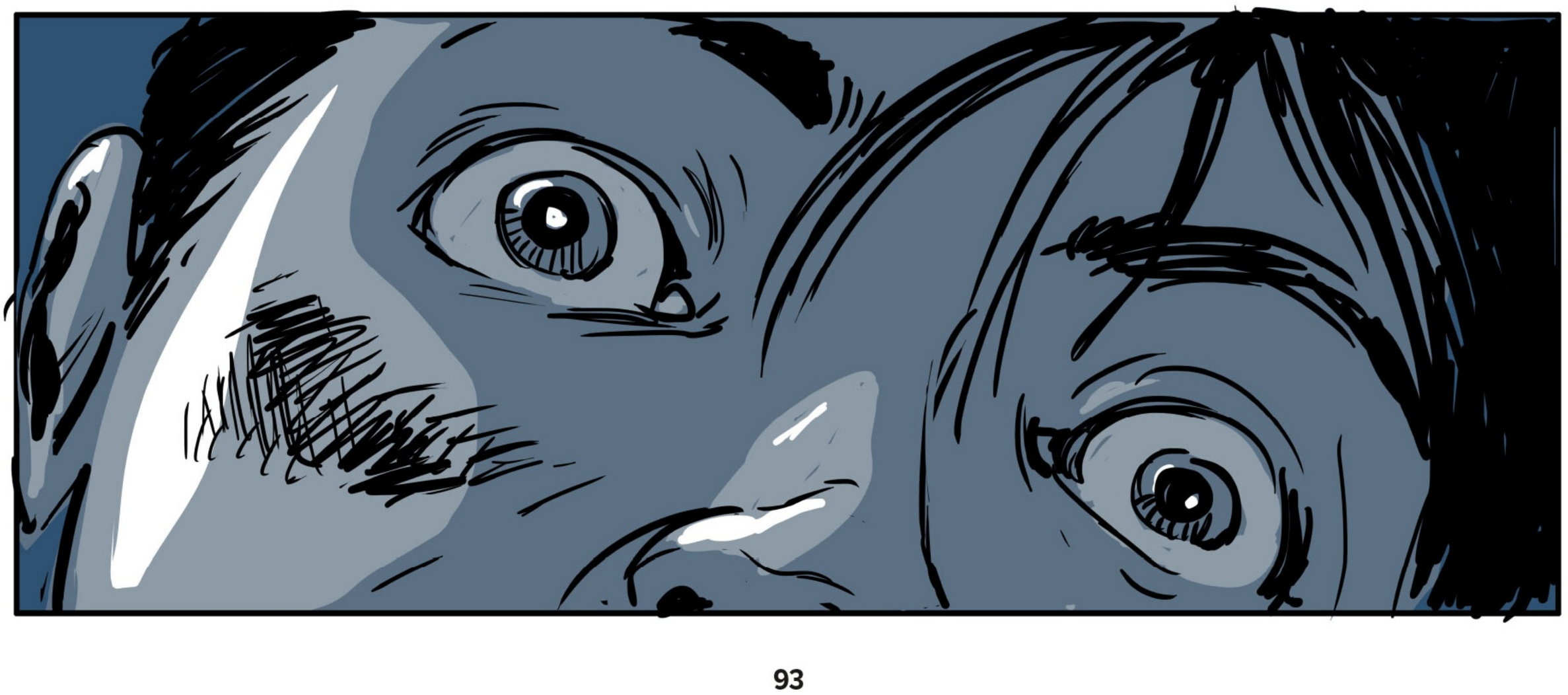
NOW COME ON. *GET BACK UP* ON YOUR SKIS AND LET'S GET DOWN THE HILL.

HOT CHOCOLATE'S WAITING FOR US.

I'M NOT A *BABY.* I DON'T NEED *HOT CHOCOLATE.*

I JUST WANNA GO *HOME.*


AAAROOOOOOOO



WHAT'S GOING ON, BOY? HOW LONG YOU BEEN UP? YOU LOOK PRETTY ***INTENSE.***

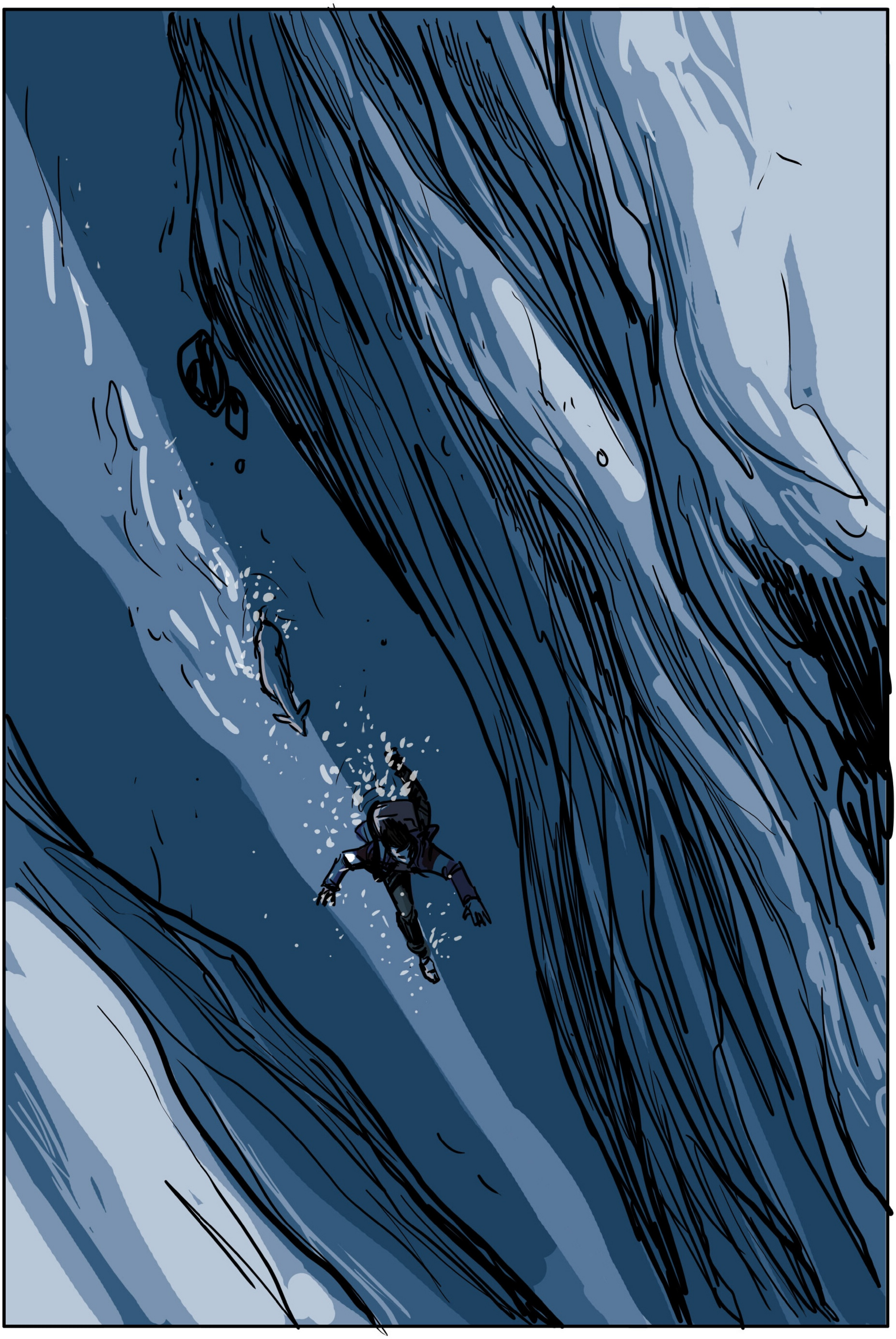
YOU HEAR THAT HOWL? YOU ***SEE SOMETHING*** OUT THERE?

OUR *FRIEND* WENT AND GOT *REINFORCE-MENTS...*

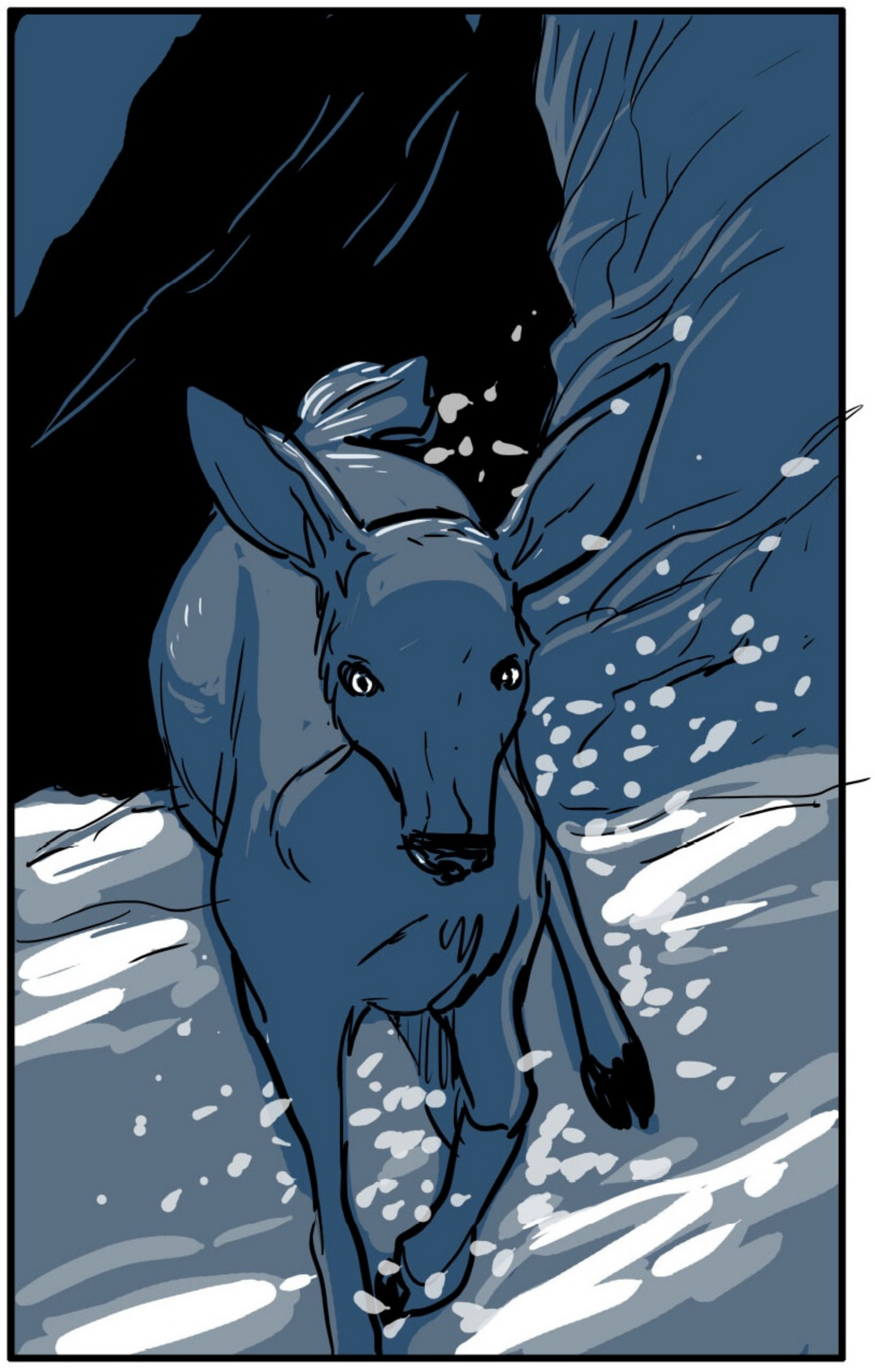
NICE AND EASY... LET'S GET OUT OF HERE BEFORE THEY *SEE US...* NOW *REAL SLOW...*

UNTIL WE TURN THAT CORNER...

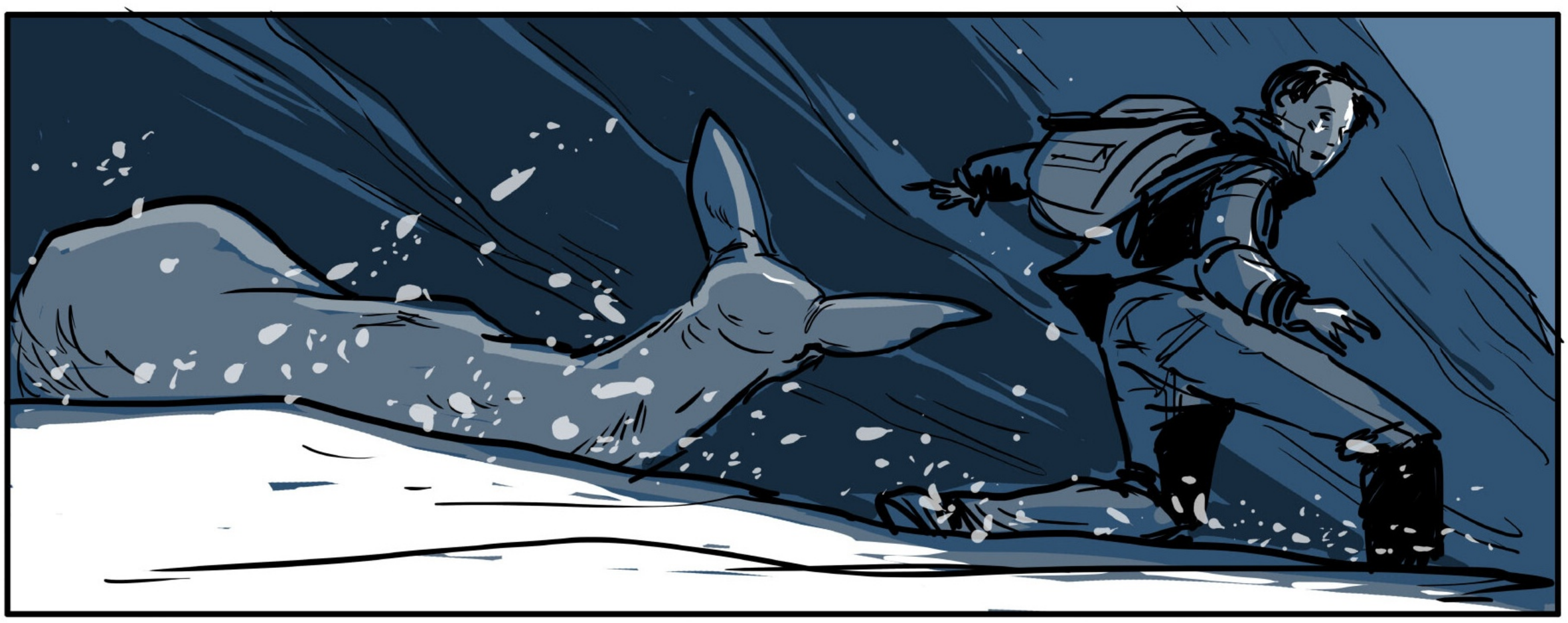
...THEN WE *RUN LIKE HELL.*

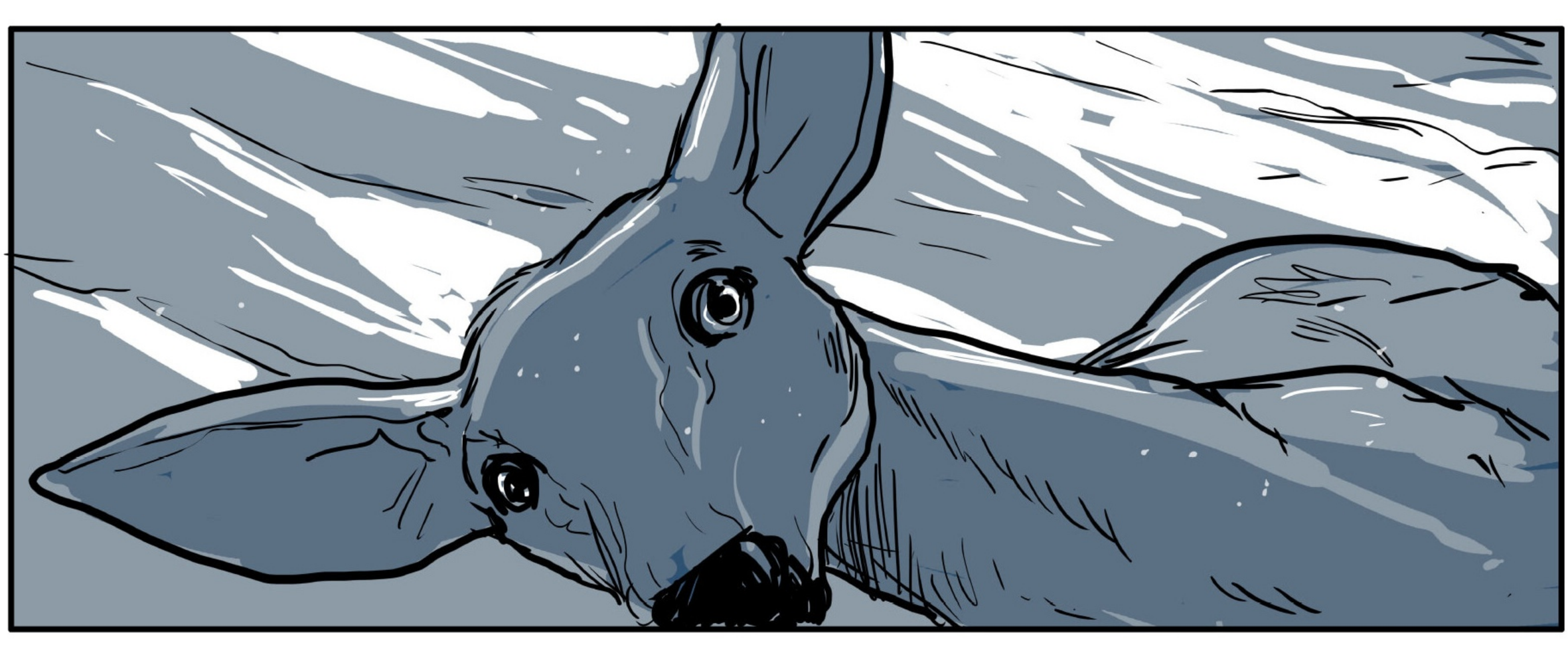


COME ON!
YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE FASTER THAN ME!



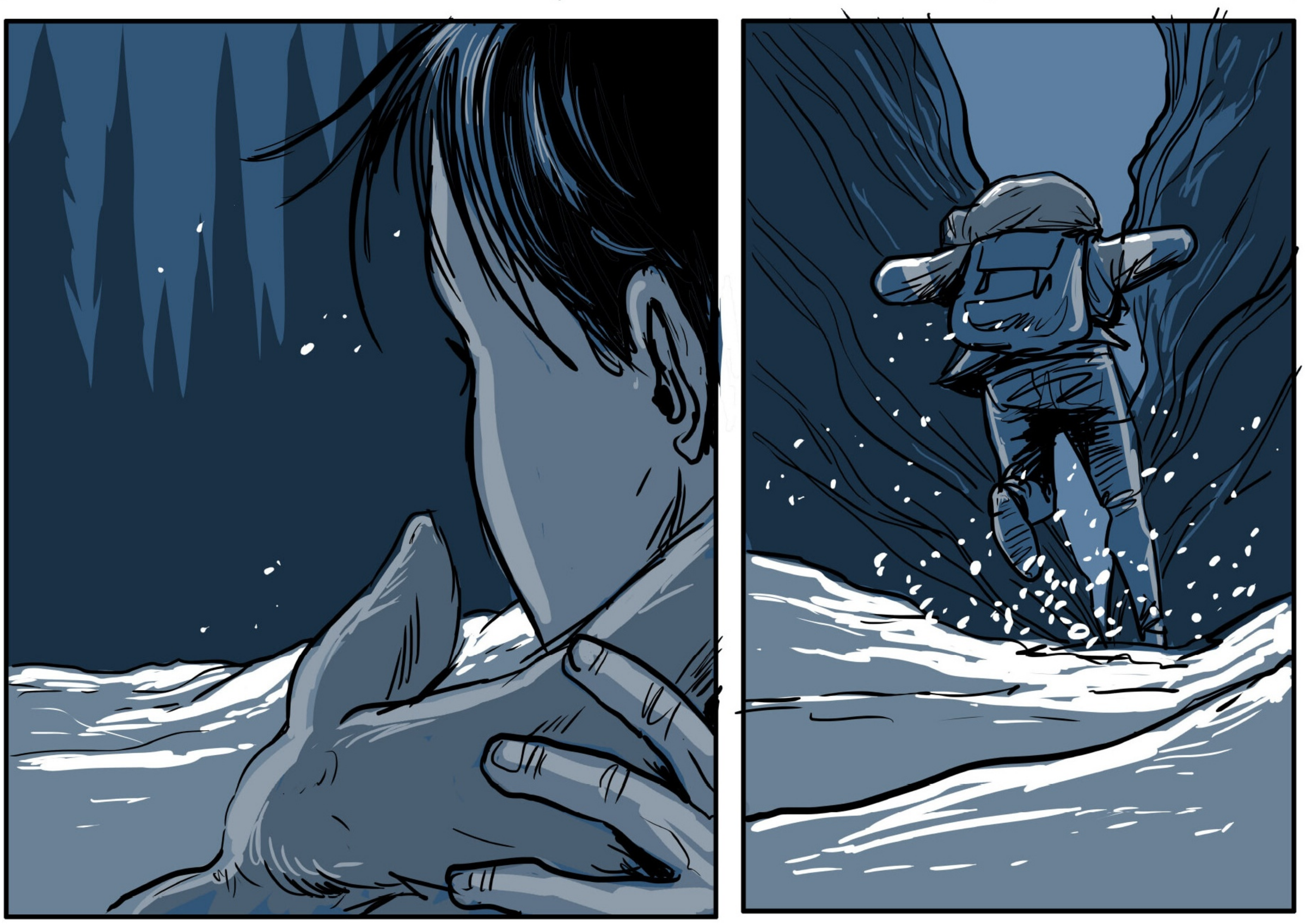
OH NO...
THE LEG...



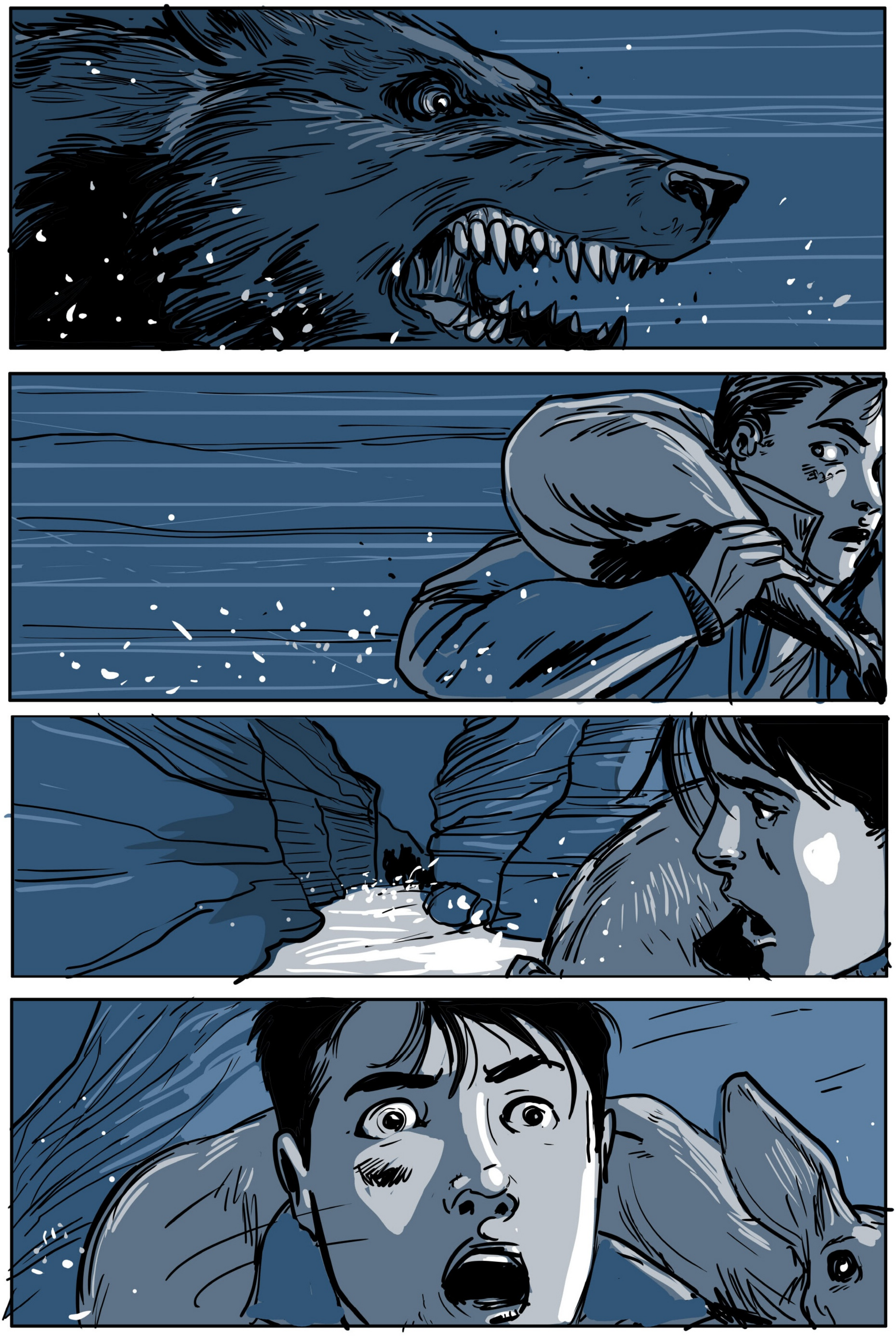


I GOT YOU! HANG ON!
I'M *NOT* GONNA LEAVE YOU!

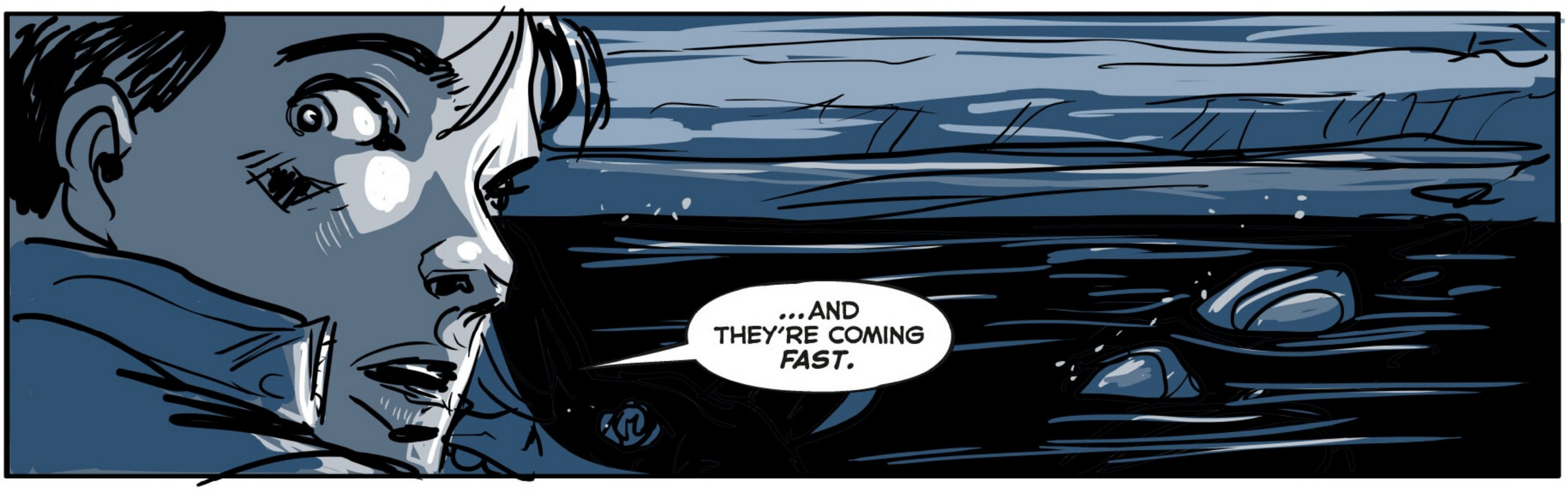
COME ON UP HERE! LET'S GO!

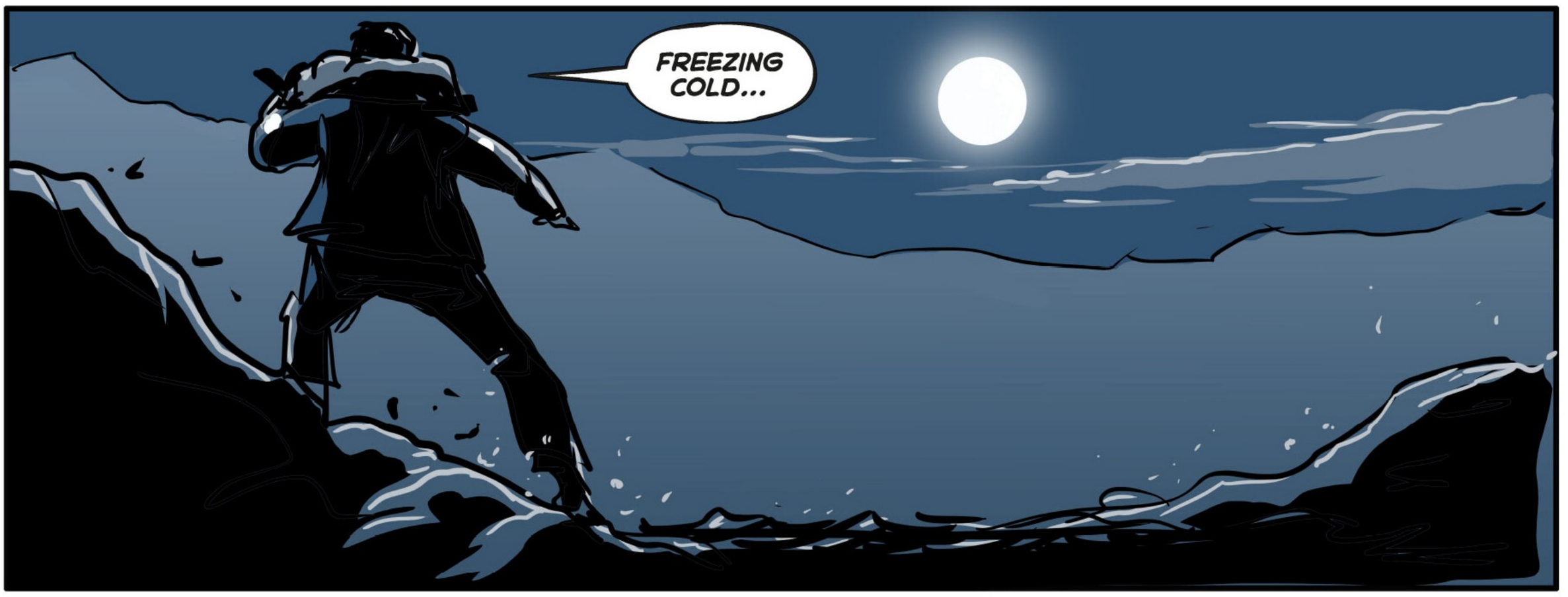


COME ON! WE'RE GONNA MAKE IT!
WE HAVE TO.



WE'RE BLOCKED BY THE RIVER...


...AND THEY'RE COMING FAST.


FREEZING COLD...

THEY'RE NOT GONNA WANNA CROSS THIS... THEY'RE GONNA STAY BACK THERE...
WE'RE GOING TO BE *SAFE AND SOUND* ON THE OTHER SIDE...
GRROWL

ALMOST THERE.

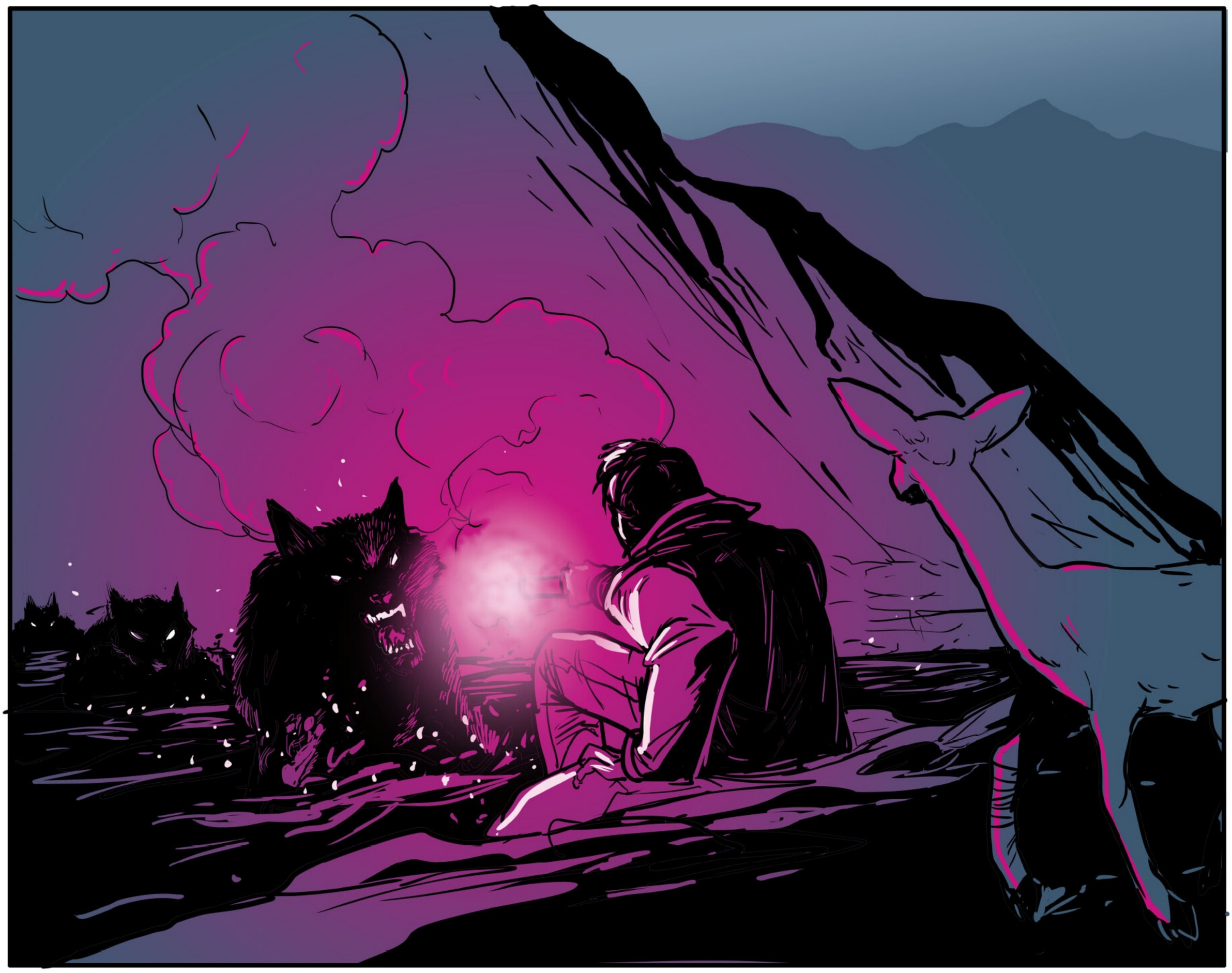
DON'T WORRY. I DOUBT THEY CAN *SWIM.*

YOU NEED TO GET UP AND *RUN.* I GOT YOU DOWN.

NOW GO!

NOW GET LOST! YOU HAVE TO GO.
I STILL HAVE A FLARE LEFT IN HERE...
BUT I CAN'T CONCENTRATE WITH YOU STANDING HERE!
NOW GO!
I DIDN'T CARRY YOU ACROSS THE FREEZING RIVER JUST SO YOU COULD GET EATEN!

GET BACK!



DON'T COME ANY CLOSER. I'LL BURN YOU!

I SAID, GET BACK!
GET AWAY FROM US!
WHY AREN'T YOU RUNNING?!

YOU THINK YOU'RE GONNA *GET PAST ME?*

I'VE GOT THE *FIRE!* I WILL *BURN YOU!*

I DON'T KNOW *HOW LONG* THIS WILL *LAST.*

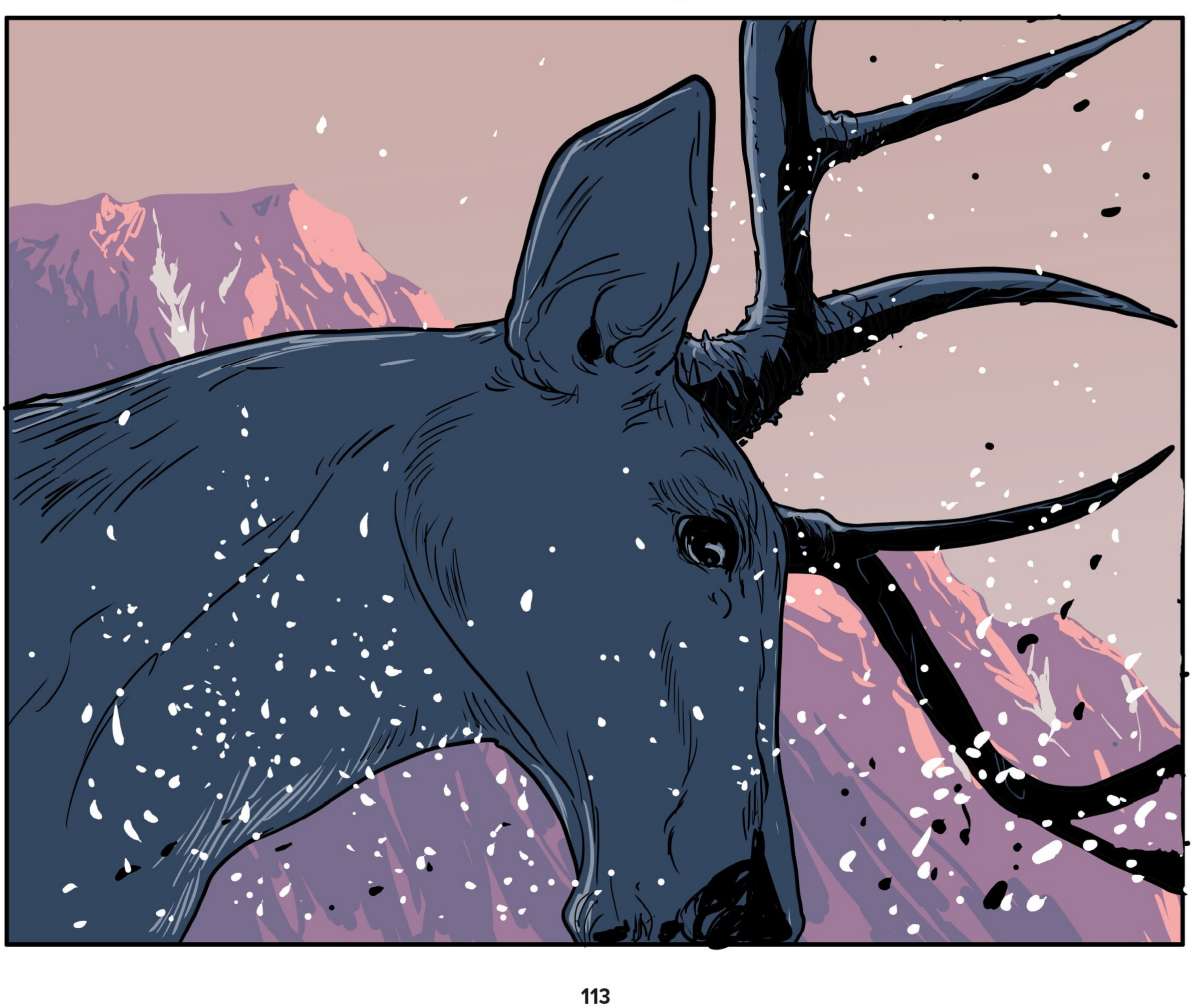
YOU HAVE TO *RUN.*

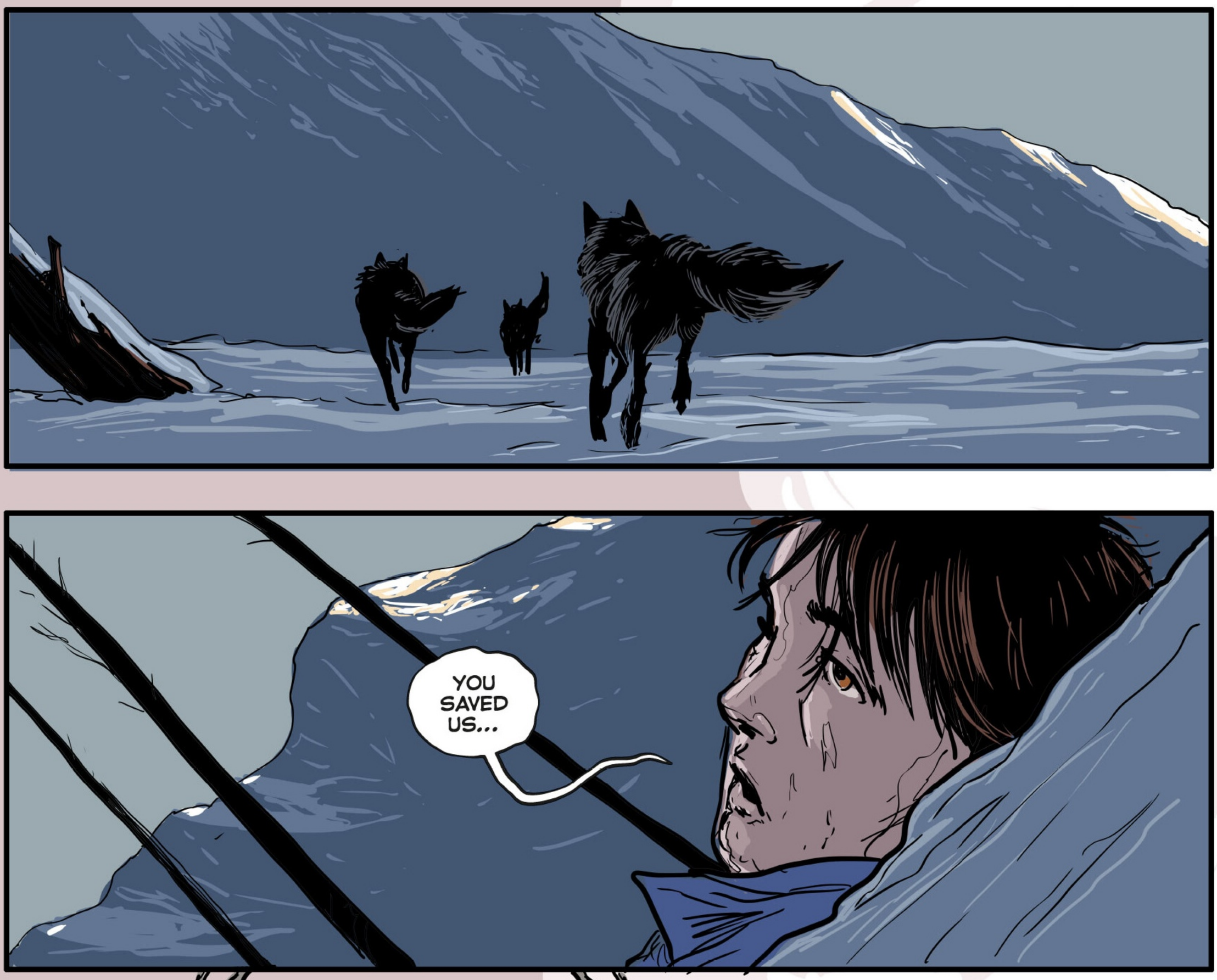
STUPID ANIMAL!

I'LL STAY HERE BUT *YOU* CAN STILL MAKE IT!

GRRRRAAARRR

FLOUNDER




YOU SAVED US...

I SAW YOU BEFORE... BUT I THOUGHT IT WAS A *DREAM*...

I'M SORRY... I'M *SO* SORRY...

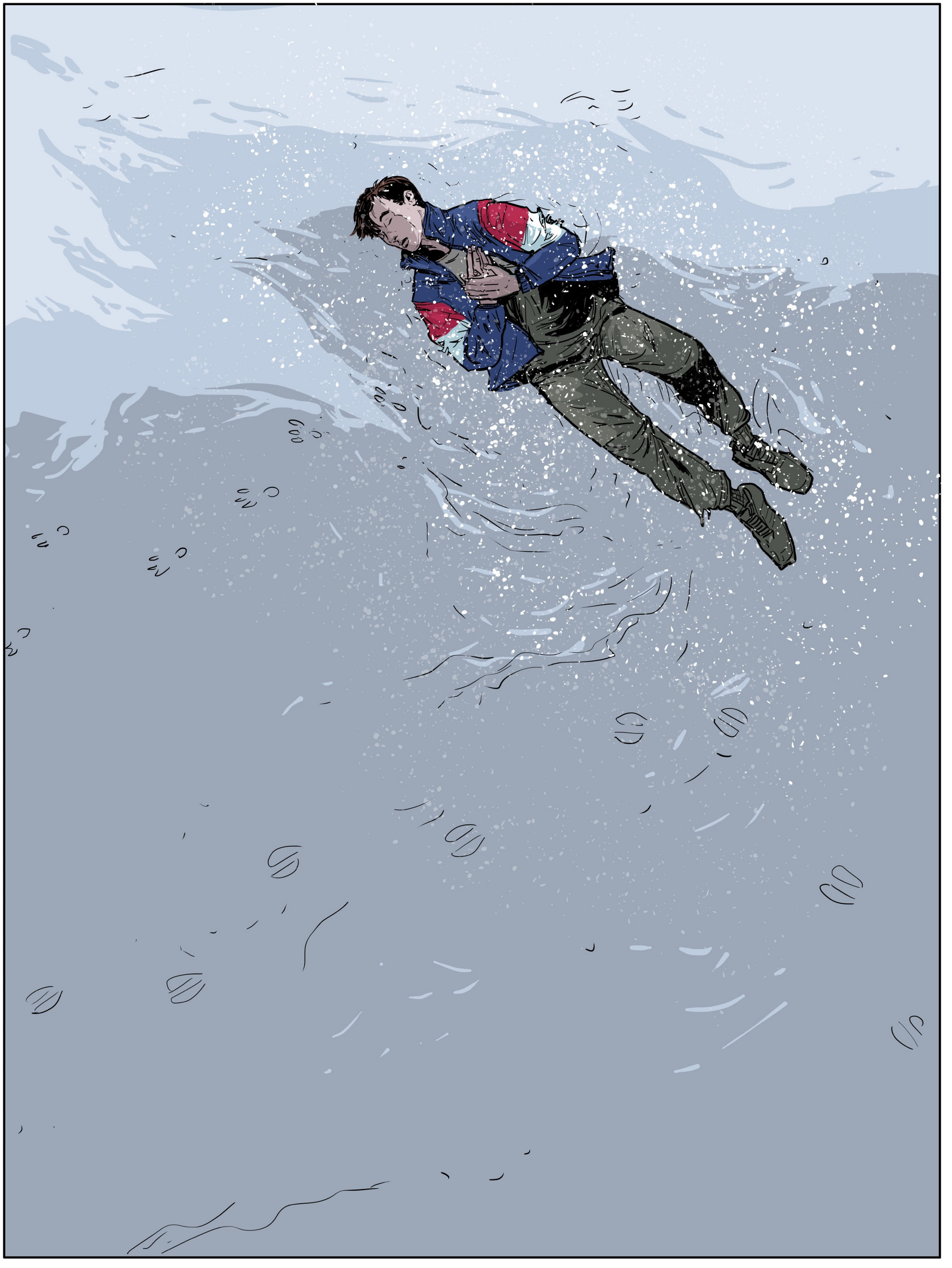
I *TOLD YOU* WE'D FIND YOUR PEOPLE...

YOU'RE *GONNA BE OK...* THERE YOU GO...

THAT'S *GOOD...* YOU'LL BE *ALL RIGHT...*

AND TELL YOUR DAD... I *OWE HIM ONE...* IF I EVER MAKE IT OUT OF HERE...

I PROMISE...



LOOK OVER THERE...

YOU SEE *THAT?* LOOKS LIKE A JACKET...

COULD BE THE KID WHO WENT MISSING...

THINK HE'S *ALIVE?*

I CAN SEE HIS *BREATH.* NOT SURE HOW HE MADE IT *DOWN THE MOUNTAIN ALL BY HIMSELF...* BUT HE MUST BE *ONE TOUGH KID...*

HOW'D HE FIND HIS WAY DOWN THE *MOUNTAIN?* AND HOW'D HE MAKE IT *ALIVE?*

...I TOLD YOU... IT WAS THE *FAWN.* I SAVED THE FAWN...

AND THE FAWN... THE FAWN SAVED *ME...*

DON'T KNOW WHAT HE MEANS BY *THAT...* BUT SOMETHING GOT HIM DOWN THAT *MOUNTAIN* IN *ONE PIECE.*

WHATEVER IT WAS, I BET HE'S GLAD FOR *ONE THING...*

...HE'S GOING HOME.

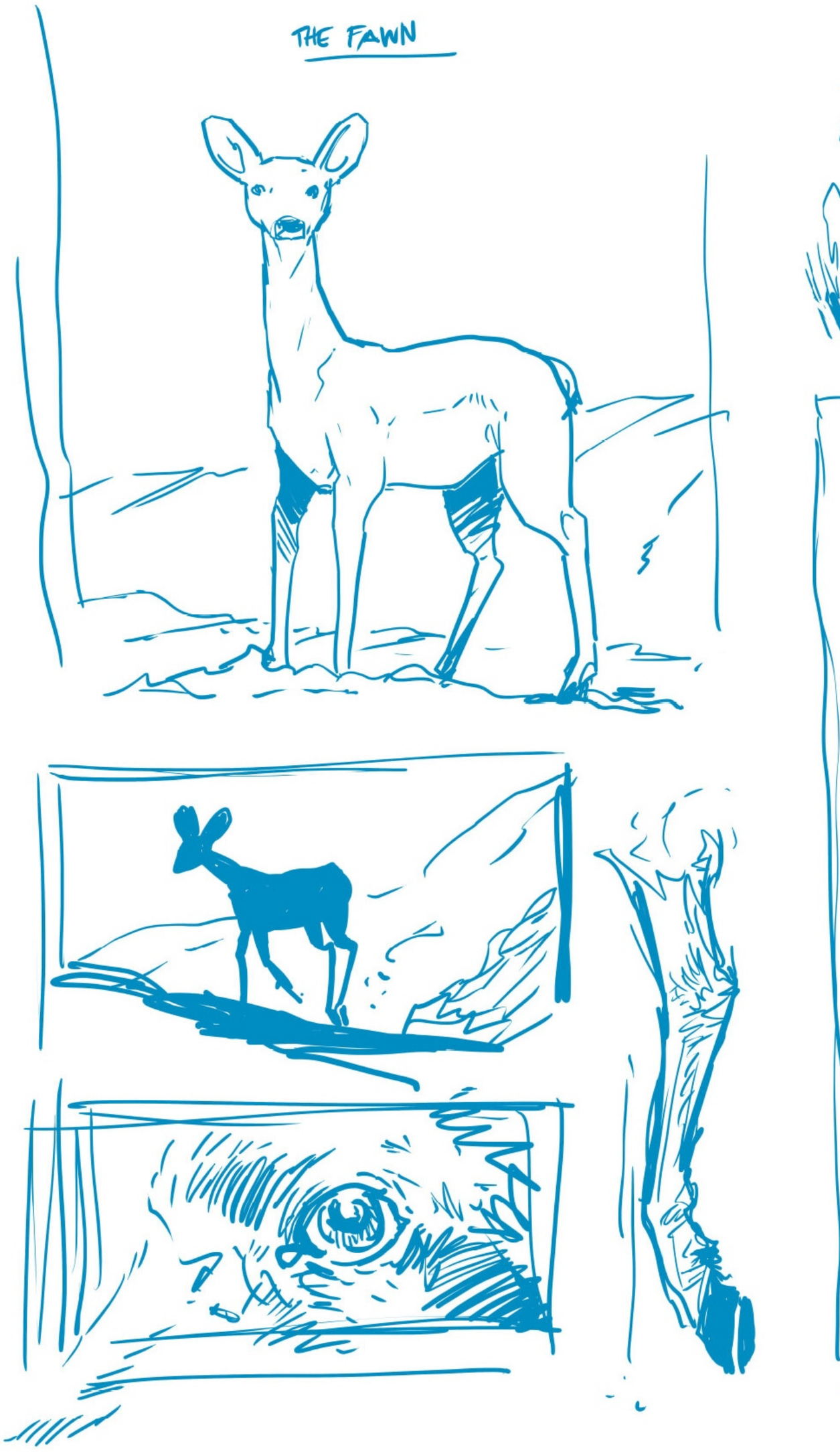
SKETCHBOOK

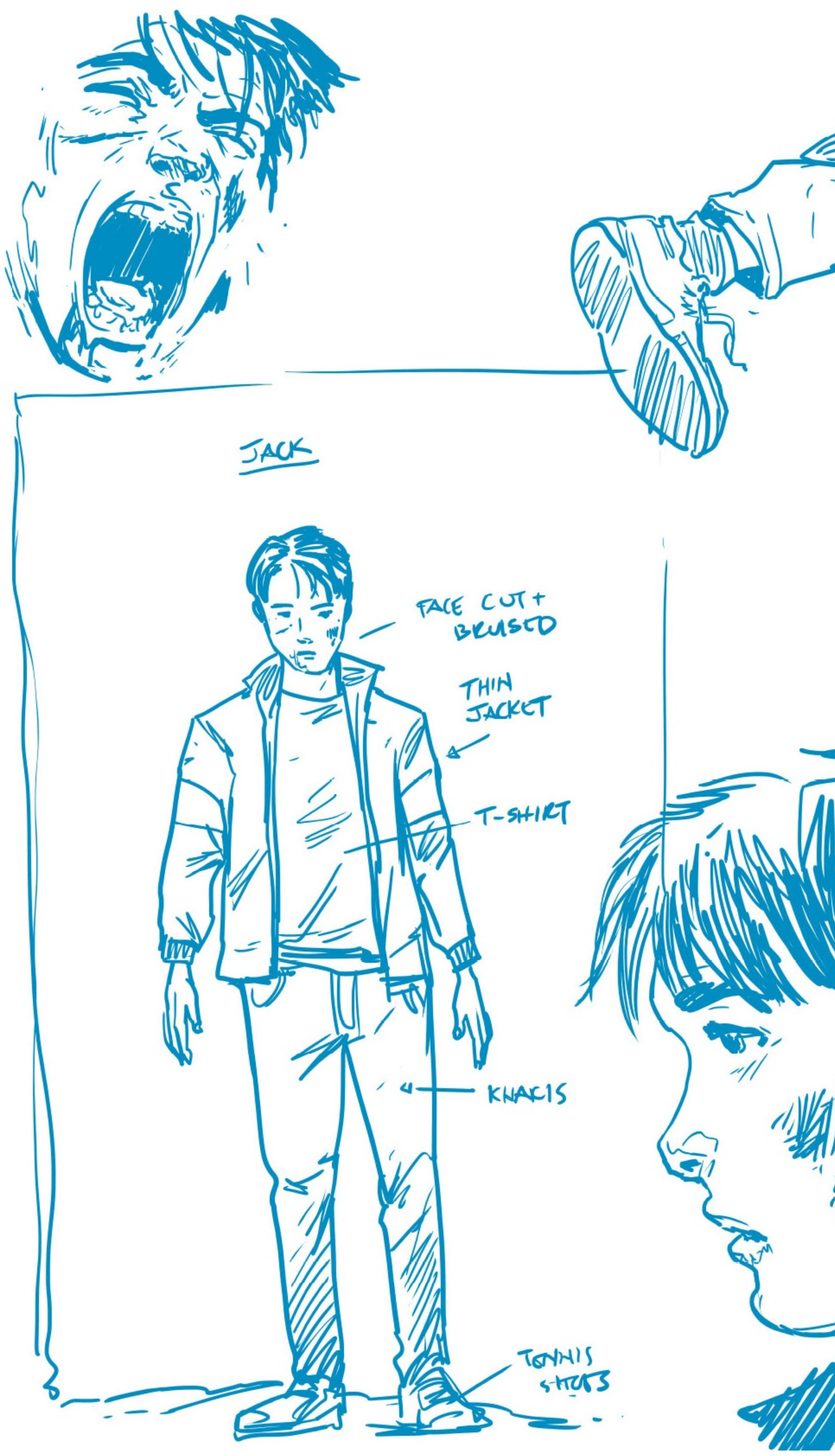
Notes by Jay Martin

I work one scene at a time. I'll pencil out several pages, very loosely, and once I'm happy with the flow of the panels and it feels like it's working, then I'll go back and start inking and coloring. It's not conventional but often I'll ink and color each page before I go on to the next one. I like to feel like I'm in the world, so I color as I go instead of waiting until the end.

OH GOD...

DAD!





For the characters of Jack and the Fawn, I wanted to capture their youth and vulnerability in a way that lined up—they needed to match. I didn't go through too many iterations; the basic design didn't change much from the first sketches. Jack may have started out a little younger looking.

Designing the cover was a fun process. These were the initial sketches I sent over. Megan Walker, my editor, picked the last one, and that was it.

All designs and art by artist Jay Martin

In the aftermath of a deadly car accident in the remote Wyoming wilderness, a young boy escapes as the sole survivor. Stranded, freezing, and without anyone around to help him, he struggles to stay alive as he attempts to find his way back to civilization. Along the way, through extreme tests of will, courage, and endurance, he discovers what it truly means to be tested, and learns that the secret to survival isn't always what you think it is.

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